

8.

are not on good terms personally, But Colonel Beck now realises that he made a miscalculation when he reckoned on the complete dismemberment of Czechoslovakia and the creation of the common frontier with Hungary. He had not appreciated that Germany was well aware of his plans, and would be able to frustrate them owing largely to the weakness of the Hungarian army. Thus the Franco-Polish alliance, reinforced by Britain's various undertakings to stand four-square with France in any serious trouble, assumes a revived attraction for Poland.

#### LONDON AND MOSCOW.

Recognising the dangers of another critical year provoked by "Axis" demands London is not repeating the apparent error of neglecting Moscow as was done last September. Steps are being taken with the object of convincing the Soviets that Britain and France mean business. In this association the latest evidence that the Chinese armies have been reformed and re-equipped seems to confirm reports of ten days ago sent out by the Soviet official news agency. This painted a picture of several millions of Chinese trained and ready to resume the efforts to eject the Japanese invaders.

#### Hainan.

This knowledge may have precipitated the Japanese decision to occupy Hainan as a base from which to carry out blockade operations against influx of arms by sea. We gather that M. Arita, Foreign Minister, was bitter against Britain and France for alleged help in support of Chinese resistance when receiving their "representations" on the Hainan occupation.

#### Staff Talks.

No immediate retaliatory action is contemplated by France and Britain, but the area concerned is one of those which are expected to form the subject of special study by their service experts in the next weeks. These talks will have the object of working out plans for practical co-operation in defence of British and French Imperial interests, to eliminate the risks of delay in face of surprise challenges.

#### ARABS AND JEWS.

The strategic importance of Palestine in existing circumstances will finally determine the attitude of the British Government to the conferences with the Arabs and Jews in London. On paper the odds against an agreement appear overwhelming. It is true to say that the Government expected that this would be the case, but the Prime Minister is more than ever determined not to allow Palestine to become another Spain by a sharpening of present antagonisms which might give the surrounding Arab States and those other nations who might see opportunities for mischief, cause to support a rebellion in Palestine.

The British Government is too well aware of the interest Germany is taking in the Arab-Jewish conferences in London to permit a breakdown to occur. Rather than this should happen the British Government will produce proposals for an interim solution which may seem to favour the Arabs more than the Jews. The fact that the British Government has agreed to set up an Anglo-Arab sub-committee to examine in detail the McMahon pledge is indicative. The Arabs have always held that when Sir Henry McMahon, in his capacity as High Commissioner, promised, in 1915, self Government to the Arab leaders, Palestine was included in the pledge. With equal determination, the British Government has insisted for more than twenty years that Palestine was not included in the pledge.

Modification of views on both sides in respect of this pledge may lead, we are informed, to the British Government assenting to some form of Arab self Government in Palestine, and a pledge that Jewish immigration will be so restricted that at no time can there be a Jewish majority. To satisfy the Jews the British Government may then offer opportunities for Jewish settlement in other parts of the Empire, if the Jews can be persuaded to forego complete fulfilment of the Balfour promise of a National Home for the Jews in Palestine.

Thus while Britain may, as a compromise, agree to ask for some modification of the Mandate, the Government cannot possibly accept the Arab demand for complete cessation of Jewish immigration. The joint development of the country by both peoples offers the most promising line of approach to a working agreement.

THE MATERIAL IN THIS LETTER IS NOT FOR REPRODUCTION IN ANY FORM.

W347 H



P.F.41664. 293BC R O S S - R E F E R E N C E .SUBJECT:- Otto KATZ.

On 8.2.39. Ellen WILKINSON wrote from London to Otto KATZ, 3 bis Impasse de Ste. Felicite, Paris, enclosing a letter for Col. KAHLE regarding the latter's visa for the U.K. Ellen WILKINSON had apparently taken active steps at the Home Office to obtain this visa.

Original in.. P.F.47192 (KAHLE) 5a. ....dated..... 8.2.39.....

M.J.E.B.  
17.2.39.

S. Form 81.



2930  
P.F.41664C R O S S - R E F E R E N C E .

SUBJECT:- KATZ, Otto

B.5b report dated 3.2.39 re Andrew d'ANTAL stated that this young man was an active communist and a friend of John Cameron WHITE active in Communist circles since February 1936. B.5b thought it reasonable to assume that d'ANTAL, who is Hungarian by birth and who has a large number of Continental contacts, together with WHITE, are interested in the organisation called "The Anglo-Foreign Information Bureau, of 40 Chancery Lane, W.C., and the fact that WHITE is in touch with O.K. SIMON of Paris and Otto KATZ certainly suggests that the matter is well worth enquiring into.

Original in. P.F.45995. WHITE (19a).....dated. 3.2.39

D.W.H.  
8.2.39.

S. Form 81.

11/12/39



P.F.41664.

C R O S S - R E F E R E N C E .

29/4/40

SUBJECT:- Otto KATZ.

On 10.2.39. S.I.S. forwarded under CX/ /V. a copy of a report regarding the London Bureau of the Communist International.

BISHOP, who had been charged with liaison work between the Bureau and the C.P.G.B., was reported to pay frequent visits to Paris and to collaborate with KATZ and with those individuals whom KATZ had succeeded in placing in England, including ILLBERG and Wilhelm NECKER, Wieland and Johann HERZFELDE and F.C. WEISKOPF.

Original in... S.F.411/3, Vol.3 , 98a. ....dated... 10.2.39. ✓  
M.J.E.B.  
13.2.39.

P.D.  
B/2/BC/

(S. Form 81.



SECRET.

258

P.F. 41664 V.3/B4b.

25th January 1939.

Dear Major Vivian,

Many thanks for your interesting report CX/ /2772/z dated 20.1.39 about Otto KATZ. We cannot add much to the information contained in it, but the following small points may be of some interest to you.

We can confirm that KATZ has used the pseudonyms of SIMON and Rudolf BREDA. He is said to have used the name of Rudolf Breda when he visited the United States on the business of the International Peace Campaign. The name Otto SIMON has frequently appeared on correspondence from Ellen WILKINSON and other people in this country to KATZ. He has also used the name when dealing with the English publishing house of Hamish Hamilton.

In the course of the last year KATZ has paid five visits to this country, in January, February, April, June, and October. As you know, a circular was issued against him in 1933, but has never been enforced because his visits have always been sponsored by prominent Members of Parliament. The reason which he gives for his visits is usually that he must visit his publishers. They are said to be Victor Gollancz, but I am not aware that this firm has ever published a book for him.

PF.44300. BERNSTEIN, mentioned in paragraph 2 of your report, is [Sidney BERNSTEIN] who has been known to us for some years as a rich cinema proprietor who is a strong supporter of the Communist party. He is a wealthy Jew who worked his way up from very small beginnings and now owns a chain of cinemas. In 1937 he was a member of the Council of the Film Society. He is in close touch with Harry H. LITT and conducts a certain amount of propaganda in behalf of Russia by means of his influence in the film world. It is also believed that enquiries about the U.S.S.R. are made by BERNSTEIN on behalf of the Russian Embassy.

We have seen correspondence passing between him and KATZ from time to time.

Yours sincerely,

Major V. Vivian, C.B.S.  
S.I.S.



-2-

task of building up English connexions and, in this business, he is in close touch with one <sup>FRASER</sup> (FRASER,) a British journalist now resident in Paris.

Although we have known for the past year or eighteen months that KATZ has been acting as Comintern courier between France and Spain, we have nothing to show that he has used the aliases of SIMON or Rudolf BREDA, though we do know that some years ago he was supposed to use the alias RUDOLF.

<sup>c.f. 38488.</sup>  
[Louis FISCHER] is the subject of your PF.41664/B.4b of 27.11.37., which showed that he was in correspondence with KATZ.

We have heard nothing of Emil BURE since 1923, when he came to our notice as Director of the "Eclair" and as holding a controlling interest in the "Bulletin des Halles", the leading French daily dealing with the produce markets.

Our last reports regarding <sup># 45929</sup> (Franz DAHLEM) (February and March 1938) were to the effect that he had been sent from Paris to Spain.

<sup>c.f. 83/37.</sup>

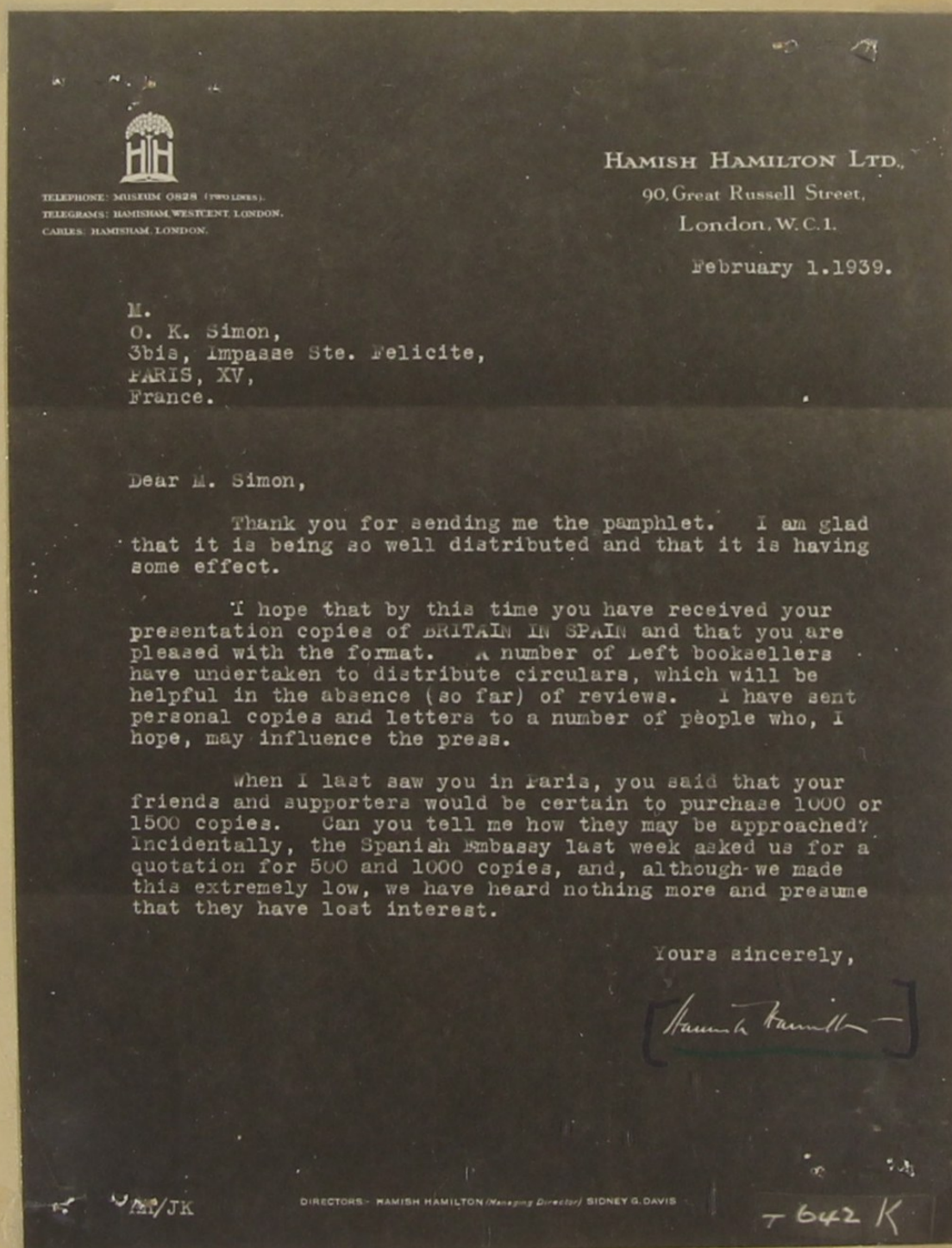
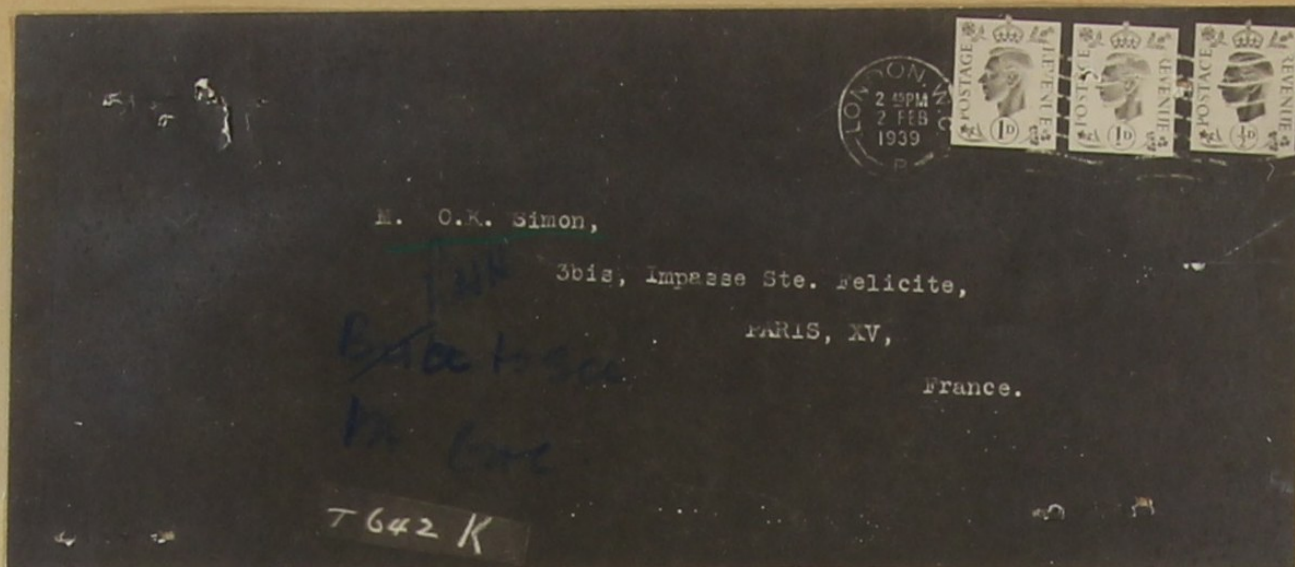
FRASER must, of course, be [Harold Jeffery Darnton FRASER,] whom we have not heard of for the last two years, but who, when last heard of, was believed to have gone to Paris from Vienna, vide our CX/12650/953 of 1.12.36.

V.

for V.V.

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3 (4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958. MAY 2003





P.F. 53297.



Form C/3—Sept., 1931.

**Secret.**

In reply, state NUMBER and DATE.

CX/12650/2772/Z, dated 20.1.39.  
V.M.I.5. (Mr. Younger)

Reference your PF.41664/B.4b of 27.11.37. and previous correspondence regarding Otto KATZ:

The following information regarding Otto KATZ has been received from a source in Paris, whom we believe to be reliable and who is **said** to be well informed of the exploits of KATZ and the persons mentioned in the report. This individual is a strong anti-Nazi and now no longer a Communist. Both he and his friends are disgusted with the behaviour of KATZ and his associates and, though it is assumed that he is speaking the truth, it is possible that some of his information may be coloured by bitterness and disgust.

Otto KATZ, known amongst certain partisans of the Spanish Government as SIMON, has been travelling in Spain on a Czech passport under the name of Rudolf BREDA. During this period he was receiving the sum of £25 p.m. from a certain <sup>P.F. 44300</sup> BERNSTEIN in London, who formerly described himself as a theatrical agent.

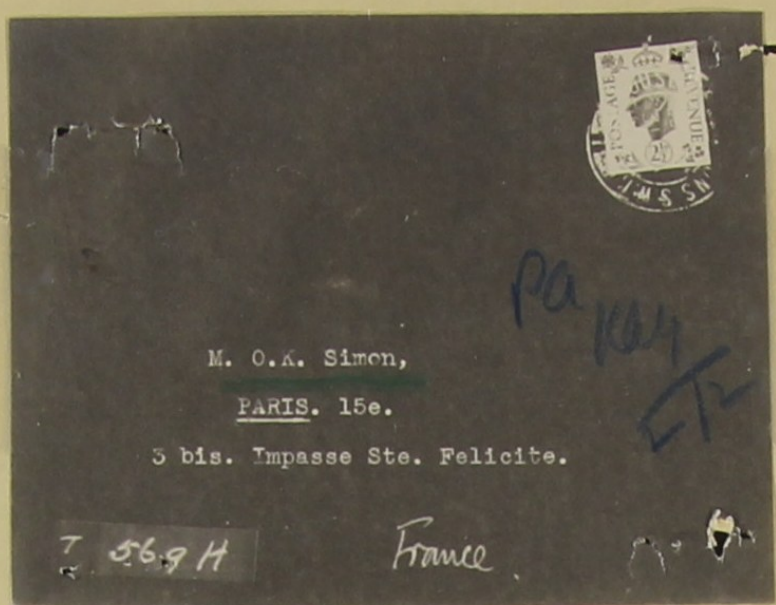
KATZ is no longer on close terms with Willi MUNZENBERG, but, on the other hand, through the good offices of Louis <sup>P.F. 38488</sup> FISCHER, he is now persona grata again with the Soviets and, in particular, with Dimitrov. Money as between FISCHER, KATZ and the Soviets seems to be plentiful.

They have been closely in touch with <sup>PP 5 3 229</sup> Emil BURE of <sup>8F 416/25</sup> [L'Ordre] and appear to be trying to subject <sup>P.F. 3608.</sup> Willi MUNZENBERG once again to the control of the Communist Party. Sometime ago MUNZENBERG received a letter from <sup>PP 47964</sup> Thomas MANN saying that large sums of money, apparently from English sources, had been placed at their disposal for the setting up of the German Opposition. A committee was formed, of which KATZ and the present leader of the K.P.D., one <sup>HS. 46929</sup> Franz DAHLEM, were members.

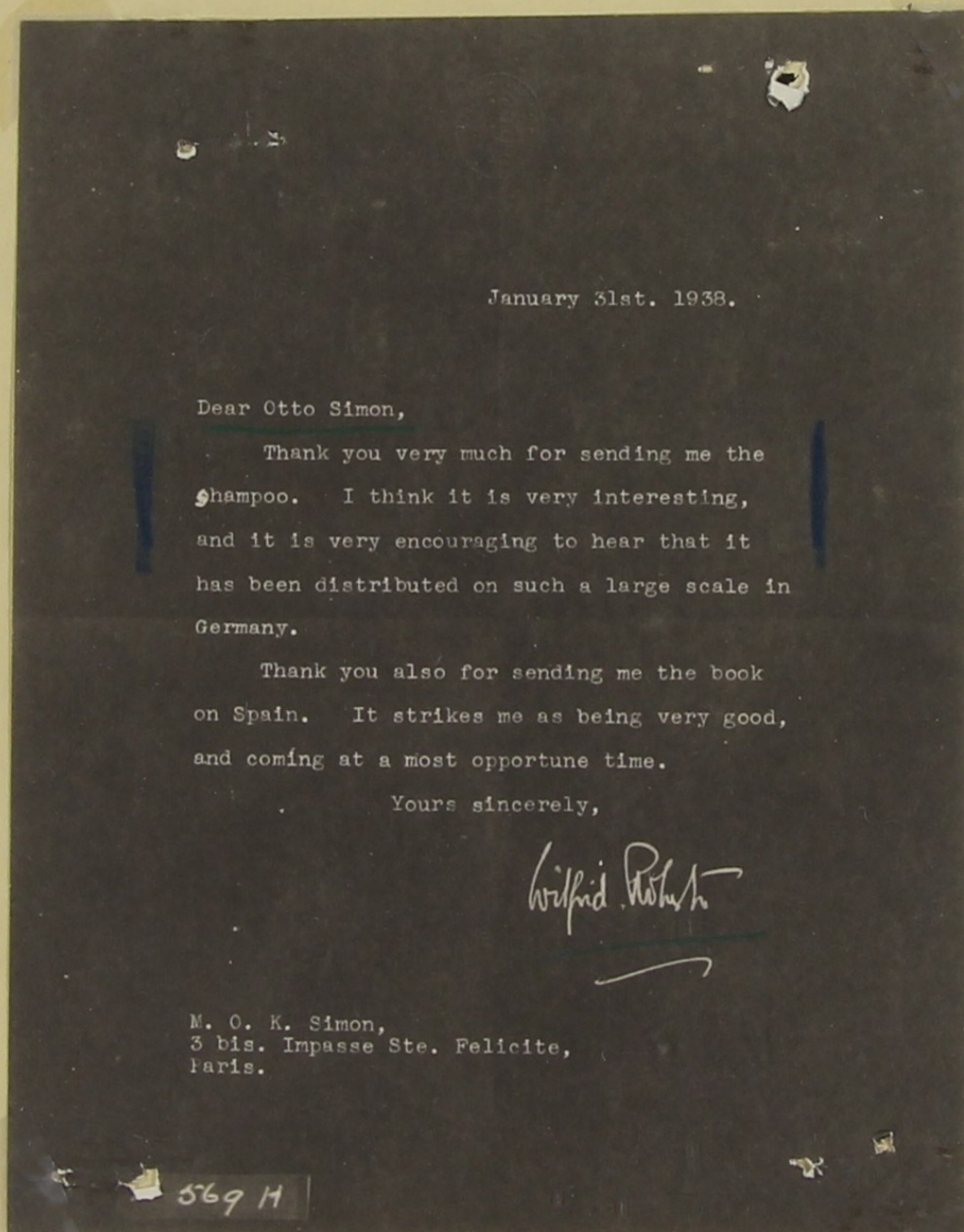
It is understood that KATZ has been allocated the special

/task



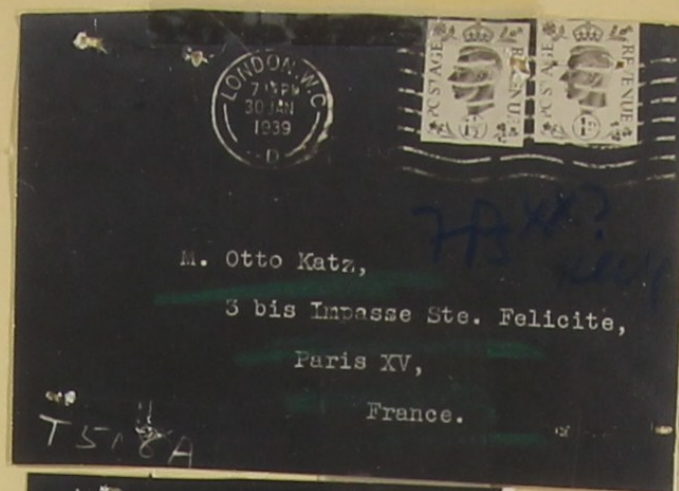


29/a



1/11/38





House of Commons

30th January, 1939.

Dear Mr. Katz,

Miss Wilkinson has asked me to send you the enclosed letter from the Home Office about Hans Kahle. Will you deal with it? She would have given it to you today but as you are not coming till Wednesday she thought she ought to send it off to you right away.

Yours sincerely,

Benny Hughes

Secretary.

518A

PF 47192

K.14233.

27th January 1939.

Dear Miss Wilkinson,

You will remember your correspondence with Mr. McAlpine and Mr. Mathews of the Aliens Department about the case of Hans Kahle. We shall be pleased to authorise facilities to enable Lieutenant-Colonel Kahle to proceed temporarily to the United Kingdom en route to Mexico or the United States if you will let us know whereabouts abroad he will apply for his British visa. We are assuming he will have no difficulty in obtaining the necessary visas for Mexico or the United States, if he has not already obtained them.

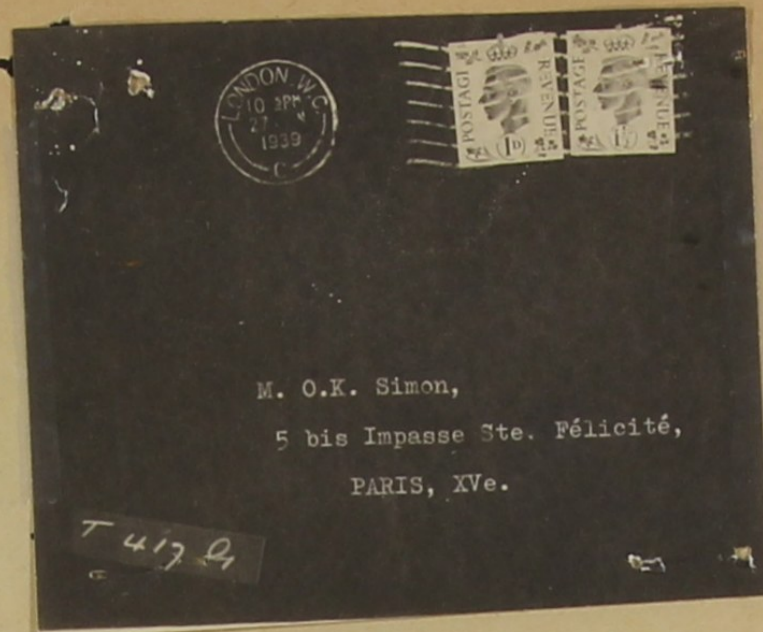
Yours faithfully,

K. B. PRICE  
Private Secretary.

Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P.,  
House of Commons,  
S.W.1.

518A





# PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE FOR SPAIN

RICHARD ACLAND, M.P.  
THE DUCHESS OF ATHOLL  
ANEURIN BEVAN, M.P.  
DAVID GREENFELL, M.P.  
MEGAN LLOYD-GEORGE, M.P.  
GEOFFREY LE M. MANDER, M.P.  
PHILIP NOEL-BAKER, M.P.  
D. N. PRITT, K.C., M.P.  
ELEANOR RATHBONE, M.P.  
S. SILVERMAN, M.P.  
G. R. STRAUSS, M.P.  
EDITH SUMMERSKILL, M.P.  
RT. HON. J. C. WEDGWOOD, M.P.  
ELLEN WILKINSON, M.P.  
H. GRAHAM WHITE, M.P.

Hon. Secretaries:  
JOHN JAGGER, M.P.  
WILFRID ROBERTS, M.P.

All communications should be addressed to  
the Organising Secretary:

11A BLOOMSBURY WAY,  
LONDON, W.C.1

Telephone: CHANCERY 8487.

27th January, 1939.

Dear Otto,

It was very nice to see you in Paris, even for so short a time, and I shall look forward to seeing you when you come to London.

I rang Ellen and she is seeing to your permit to enter. Would you let me know what time you will be arriving?

I have been preparing a certain amount of stuff, which I meant to ~~show~~ send to you, but I will leave it over till you come.

Yours sincerely

[~~Mander~~]

Noted in  
PG 46673  
MANDER

46962  
STEWART

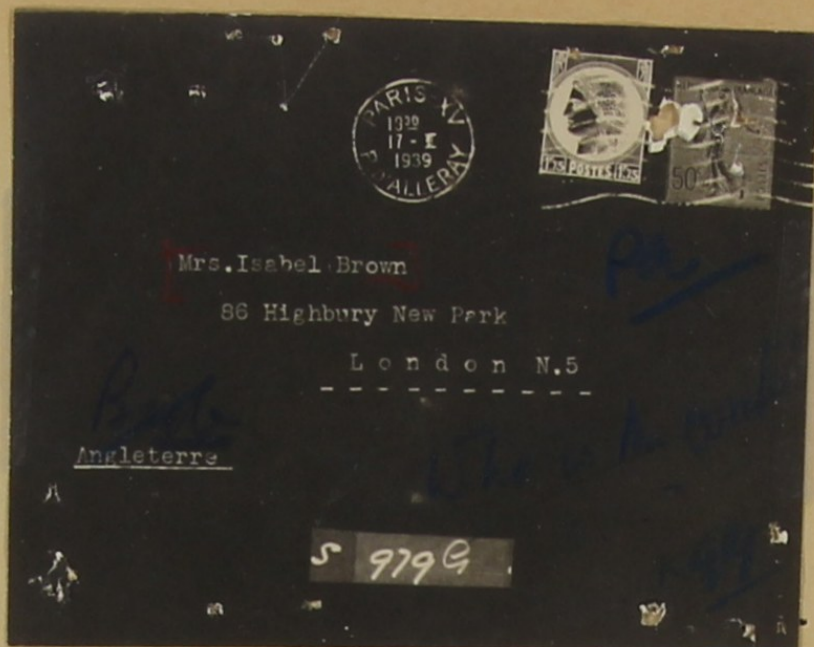
M. Otto K. Simon,  
5bis Impasse Ste. Félicité,  
Paris, XVe.

T 417.9

86  
2/2/39



286B



Paris, Jan. 17th, 1939.

Dear Isabel,

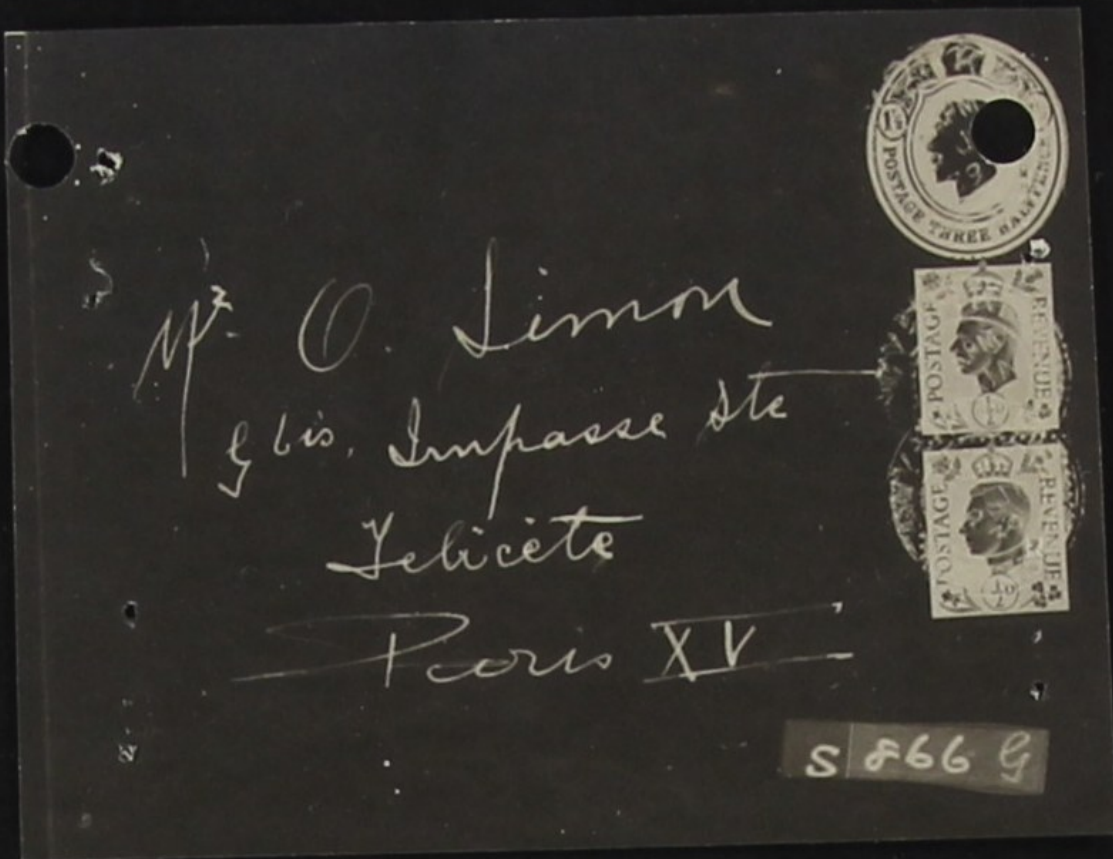
the book "Britain in Spain" is now being brought out by Hamilton. I think it will be a good support for your present work. Therefore would you be so kind to try your best to make it a real success? I am sending today a list of important individuals to Hamilton to whom he will send copies before publication to make the book known. I suggest that you get in touch with our friends Jackson in the Spanish Press Agency (151 Fleet Street, Tel. Central 7147 - Private address: 3 Friars Stile Road, Richmond, Tel. Richmond 3428) and Charles Duff, United Editorial Ltd (11 Great Turnstile, High Holborn, W.C.1) who will be sure to be helpful in this matter. Ellen promised me to write something about the book, but would you please remind her of it? Then it would be very useful, I think, if you would try to induce Asc. to buy 100 copies in order to send them to important people.

I am counting on you in this matter, and am in a hurry and with kindest regards to Kenneth (how is his skin trouble?), Ernie and yourself,

Yours,

S 979 G





*Handwritten note on a separate piece of paper:*  
 58665. Simon  
 Can you  
 find out

Dear Otto,  
 Just a note to you to say how sorry I am at missing you on Saturday in Paris. I wired you from the station at Nine Thirty and remained there in the hope that you would arrive before Twelve O'clock.  
 I had an unfortunate experience at the Frontier with the ~~Regiment~~ <sup>Regiment</sup>. They would not allow me to take them into Spain, and I had to leave them with the Officer in Charge, who gave me a receipt for them, which he told me would be repaid at the Bank in Barcelona, if I could get the authority for purchase of same. Aurora accompanied me to the Bank in Barcelona, but ~~they~~ <sup>she</sup> informed us that unless we had the authority for purchase of the money, it must be retained by the Government. I have left the receipt for the money with Aurora, and it can send along the authority for purchase, she will be able to get the money, and forward it to you and then it can be used by anyone as long as they can show the receipt which the Bank gives for purchase.  
 Aurora will be able to send the money to you if you can send on to her the authority for purchase.  
 I am writing an article for the Railway review and one for the Local Paper in my constituency. I will send a copy of them on to you next week end.  
 You might let me know when you will be in London again, as I would like to have an hour with you, and do not be in a big hurry as you generally are, but reserve a little time to spend with me.  
 Please remember me to Mrs. Simon and accept best wishes for yourself.  
 Yours sincerely,  
 M. Simon

M. Otto, Simon.  
 Impasse Ste. Helicete.  
 Paris. XV.

Jan. 15th. 1939



PF. 41664. 286xC R O S S - R E F E R E N C E .

SUBJECT:- O. Katz.

On 10.1.39 Otto Katz wrote to Isobel Brown from Paris. He asked her to renew his subscription to the Anglo-Foreign Information Bureau for another 6 months. He said that there had been some trouble with "our friends" and "Willi" with regard to Willi's paper, "Die Zukunft".

Katz hoped Isobel Brown would be coming to Paris soon but he would see her anyhow at the end of January when he was coming to London.

Original in..... L. 158/954. 7a. .... as above.  
..... dated.....  
MG<sup>11</sup>. 18.1.39.

S. Form 81.



SECRET.

Copies in SF. 416/10 (Runag.)  
 PF. 44122. R. Petit.

2850  
 How. 6608

December, 1938.

To THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL, and all others whom it may concern,

I hereby authorize and require you to detain, open and produce for my inspection all postal packets and telegrams addressed to :—

Otto KATZ,

3, bis, Impasse Sainte-Felicite, Paris, XV,

and

c/o Editions Carrefour, 63, Boulevard Montparnasse, Paris.

Robert Gaston Gustave PETIT @ "Monsieur Bob",  
288, rue Jean Jaures, Maison Alforts, Seine.

and

Imprimerie Francaise, 123 rue Montmartre, Paris.

and

Bureau des Editions de Publicite, 25 rue d'Alsace, Paris,

or to any name at that or any other address if there is reasonable ground to believe that they are intended for the said Otto KATZ and R.G.C. PETIT,

and for so doing this shall be your sufficient Warrant.

*One of His Majesty's  
 Principal Secretaries of State.*

PF. 41864/B.4b

These are important Communist organisers. Their correspondence from this country is of interest, and it is desired to retain the warrant.

S. Form 56

17/11/38



PF. 41664.

C R O S S - R E F E R E N C E .

284B

SUBJECT:- O. KATZ.

On 8.12.38 Ellen Wilkinson wrote to O. Katz enclosing a letter from Australian authorities regarding the application of Schapira and Liner to settle in Australia. The writer asked Katz to inform Kisch that she was doing her best in the matter.

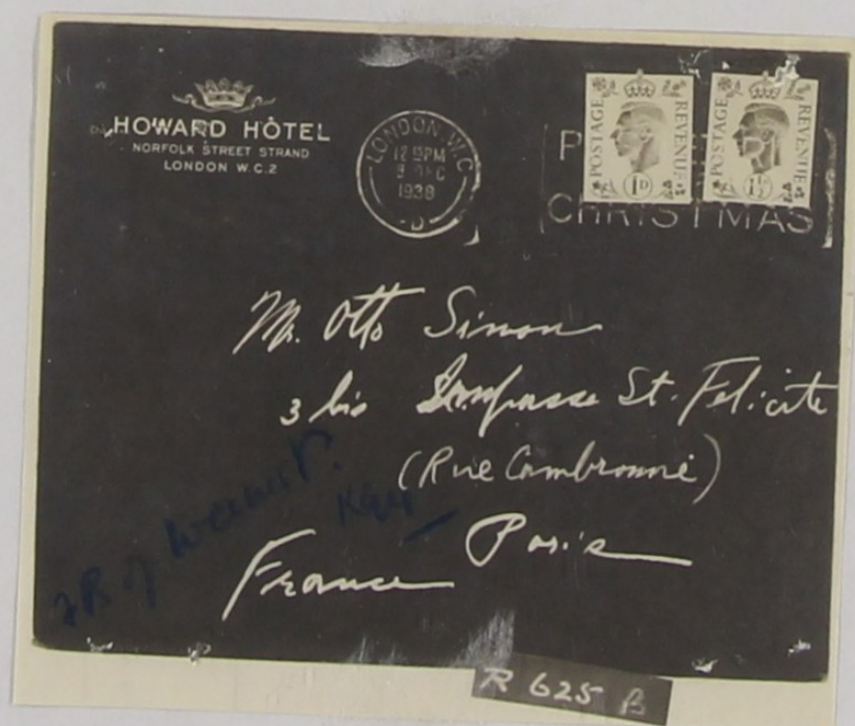
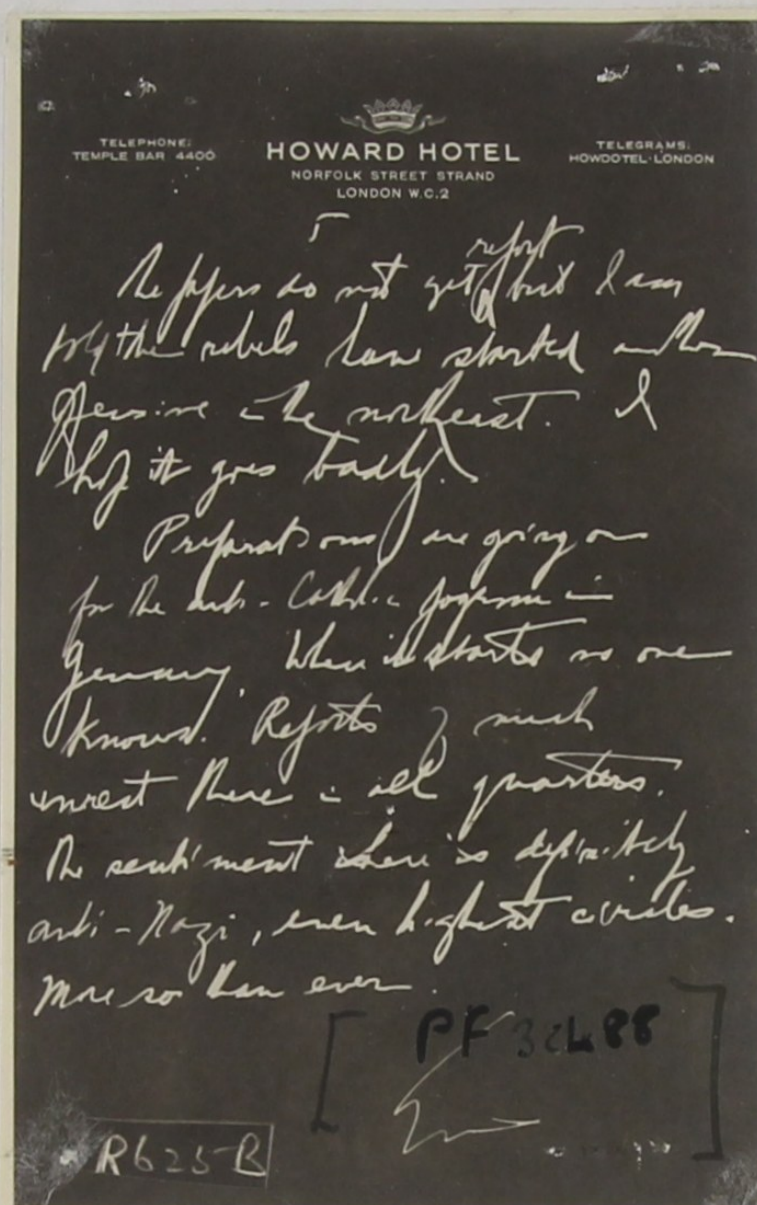
Ellen Wilkinson has applied for a visa for Hans Kahle and had written personally to Mon. Sarraut on his behalf,

Original in.....List. 158 (1195) v.2. 51b.....dated.....as above.  
MGH.  
9.1.39.

S. Form 81.



2849





2849

TELEPHONE: TEMPLE BAR 4400  
**HOWARD HOTEL**  
 NORFOLK STREET STRAND  
 LONDON W.C.2  
 TELEGRAMS: HOWHOTEL LONDON

Dec. 8

Dear Mr.,

The friends here are disturbed about the disappearance of Enoch Worms. Please tell Wolff that has happened to be in the past.

I am told that the question of rights will certainly be raised in Rome. They say the French minister is in favor of granting them. Bonnet has boasted that he prevented that last time. It is asked whether the French will take the same attitude. Do you know?

Italy is speculating on French

R625B

TELEPHONE: TEMPLE BAR 4400  
**HOWARD HOTEL**  
 NORFOLK STREET STRAND  
 LONDON W.C.2  
 TELEGRAMS: HOWHOTEL LONDON

2

internal weakness. France has many friends here but they must be told that their help is wanted. Poincaré should ask for the loan which M. Poincaré will try to get in January. The Tunis affair has had a very bad press here and it would be easy to show the city that in present circumstances a loan would be a bad investment. It might pay for a war or for a war against France. In fact, any improvement of the situation of financial position - through subsidy reform or other - would have this effect.

R625B

TELEPHONE: TEMPLE BAR 4400  
**HOWARD HOTEL**  
 NORFOLK STREET STRAND  
 LONDON W.C.2  
 TELEGRAMS: HOWHOTEL LONDON

3

The Edentates are strong against the grant of rights and will vote against the government on this question. If the French radical movement showed their hostility to the granting of these rights the reaction here would be good.

I will be glad to hear from you in New York. Please tell the Lubliner that my mail did not come here and that I am very angry.

R625B

TELEPHONE: TEMPLE BAR 4400  
**HOWARD HOTEL**  
 NORFOLK STREET STRAND  
 LONDON W.C.2  
 TELEGRAMS: HOWHOTEL LONDON

4

There is a story circulating here that Chamberlain will leave London earlier and spend a day in Paris. This would be welcome if true.

How many old friends and new ones. While London. How my health is good here. But there are no girls. That is good for journalism. Regards to your wife. Will you please send to my son Vitya his letter in the N.W.B. only the clipping.

The best of continued fighting in Abyssinia.

R625B



283a  
PF. 41664.G R O S S - R E F E R E N C E .SUBJECT:- Otto KATZ.

On 6.12.38., Louis Fischer wrote to

O. Simon asking him to forward a letter to Hans Kahle.

This letter was written by E. Wilkinson and concerned  
arrangements for getting Kahle into the U.K.The letter was addressed to : 3 bis Impasse St Felicite,  
Rue Cambronne,  
Rue Vaigorard, Paris.Original in.....PF.38488 Fischer 110a.....dated.....as above.  
MGH. 12.12.38.

S. Form 81.



Copy. Original in SF 427/1.

Route **GOVT.** Serial No. **53408.** No. of Words **20.** Copied by  
**1.12.38.**

From **LEO PARIS.**To **RELIEF COMMITTEE 1, LITCHFIELD STREET CHARING CROSS.**Date **29.11.38.**

No. \_\_\_\_\_

**MARGUERITE PLEASE PHONE KATZ 64872 PRAGUE WEDNESDAY**  
**AT ONE OC.**

**LEO.**

**B72**  
**13/12/38**



D.S.S.

Do you think P.U.S. H.O. should be

P.F. 41664

281A

B.

Editor at a time note. 8/16. 23/11

NO 11/11

Otto KATZ is a Czechoslovakian journalist and author. He is a communist and is believed to have escaped from Germany when the Nazis came into power.

For some time he has been in Paris where he was in close touch with the Munzberg Committee and was an active official of several communist controlled organisations such as the Workers' International Relief.

KATZ has been paying frequent visits to this country ever since March 1933, when he came to discuss the affairs of the German Relief Committee. On most occasions he has said that he wishes either to see his publishers or to collect material for a book.

On 5.9.1933 a Home Office circular was issued against him, but almost immediately afterwards he was allowed to enter the U.K. again in connection with the counter-enquiry into the Reichstag Fire Trial held in London. From June 1933 he has usually spend a good deal of his time while in England in the company of Miss Ellen WILKINSON, and it is owing to her intervention that he has been able to pay so many visits since the H.O. circular was issued against him. These visits have mostly been of only a few days duration, and so far as is known he has complied with the condition that he should take part in no political meetings.

It is, however fairly certain that he has been acting as intermediary between Willi MUNZENBURG and the British communist leaders. The reasons which he has given for coming may have been perfectly correct, but it is fairly certain that he was able to transact other business in his off moments. It would, however, be impossible to produce evidence to prove that he is a Comintern agent.

Strong representations were made to the Home Office in December 1933, and a further minute was sent in June 1938, giving full information about KATZ and suggesting



- 2 -

that he should not be allowed to visit the U.K. The Home Secretary over-ruled the earlier objection on the ground that KATZ had apparently observed the condition on his previous visits. We have not heard the result of the last protest. The position, therefore, is that the circular against him still stands, but that he is always allowed to land.

In the attached letter, Miss WILKINSON<sup>(279a)</sup> says that she will now try to get visas for "the KISCH group". KISCH is presumably Egon Erwin KISCH, another Czechoslovakian journalist who moves in the same circles. He has known Miss WILKINSON and Otto KATZ at least since 1933, and has been connected with the International Secretariat of the L.A.I., with the Munzenburg Committee, and more recently with the World Committee against War and Fascism. He is now propaganda organiser for the Action Committee of the Comintern in Paris.

Nothing is known of Miss LINER, mentioned in the second paragraph, except that Miss WILKINSON obtained a permit for her and was in correspondence with KATZ on the subject.

It is impossible, on present evidence, to express any opinion as to the meaning of the first paragraph. The only deduction which can fairly be drawn from the letter as a whole is that Miss WILKINSON is in closer contact with Comintern circles abroad than we had previously believed. This view is borne out by her reference to "the big fellow" in paragraph 4. This is a nick-name by which paid Comintern employees in Paris frequently refer to one of their Chiefs whom we have never been able to identify.

Another indication of the same kind is the close interest which she is taking in Wilhelm KOENEN, mentioned in paragraph 3. KOENEN has been a very prominent



- 3 -

Comintern agent in Central Europe ever since 1921, and was at one time a leading official of the German Communist Party.

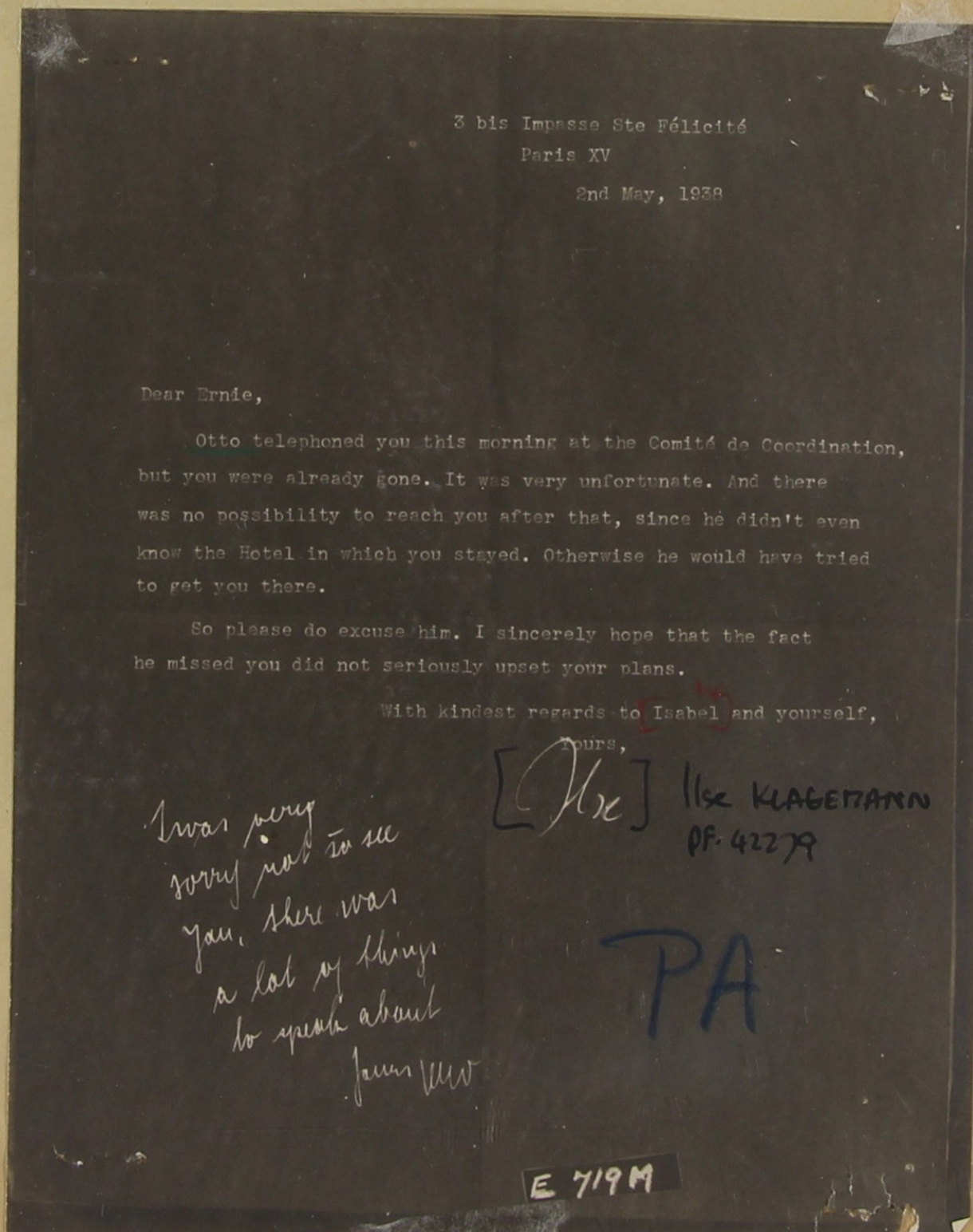
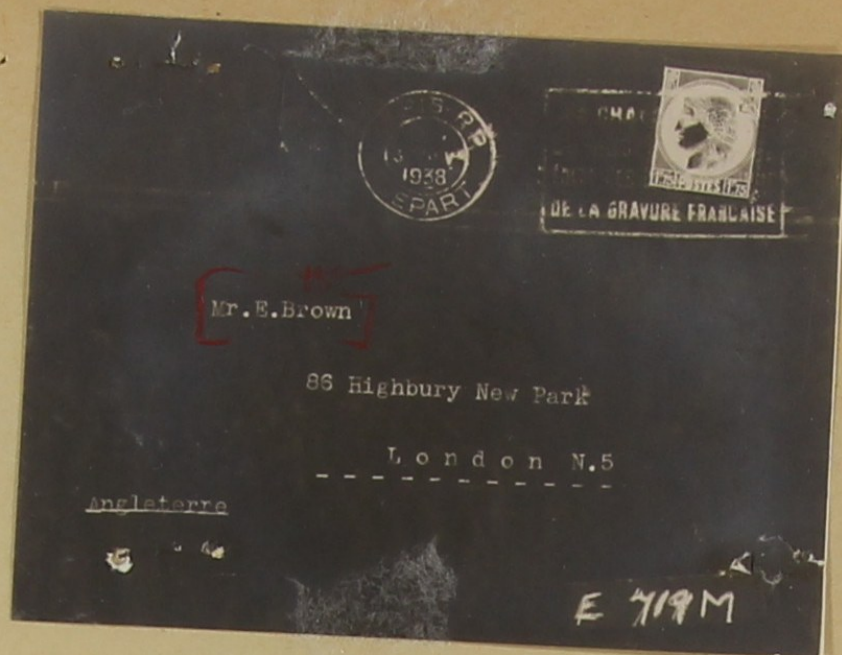
As against these considerations it is only fair to point out that Miss WILKINSON has taken considerable interest in refugees from Germany ever since 1933, and that her connection with all the communists mentioned might be explained on that ground alone. This is particularly true of KATZ, who plays an equally active part in the same work in France.

B.4b  
21.11.38

Kay



252A





279A

# TIME AND TIDE

An Independent, Non-Party Weekly Review

VISCOUNTESS RHONDDA

TELEPHONE: MUSEUM 1533-4.

TELEGRAMS: TYDANTYM, WESTCENT, LONDON.

32, BLOOMSBURY STREET,  
LONDON, W.C.1.

November 17th 1938

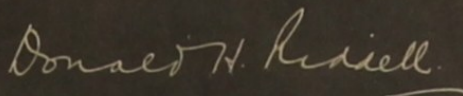
Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P.,  
18 Guilford Street  
London W.C.1.

Dear Miss Wilkinson,

Lady Rhondda has asked me to let you have an estimate of the cost of producing and advertising an eight-page Jewish Supplement on the same lines as the recent Spanish Supplement.

I attach a schedule and would point out that the editorial item is only an approximate figure: the final cost may be a few pounds more or less than £30.

Yours sincerely,



DHR/DLP.

Q 429 H

# TIME AND TIDE

An Independent, Non-Party Weekly Review

VISCOUNTESS RHONDDA

TELEPHONE: MUSEUM 1533-4.

TELEGRAMS: TYDANTYM, WESTCENT, LONDON.

32, BLOOMSBURY STREET,  
LONDON, W.C.1.

## ESTIMATE FOR 8-PAGE JEWISH SUPPLEMENT

Paper .....	£12. 0. 0
Composition, Machining, Binding ...	20. 0. 0
Carriage .....	2. 6. 8
Editorial .....	30. 0. 0
Advertising (DAILY TELEGRAPH, SPECTATOR, TIMES LITERARY SUPPLEMENT, JEWISH CHRONICLE	70. 0. 0
Postal Propaganda .....	15.13. 4
	£150. 0. 0

If extra copies are required for their own use they can be supplied at £10 per 1,000

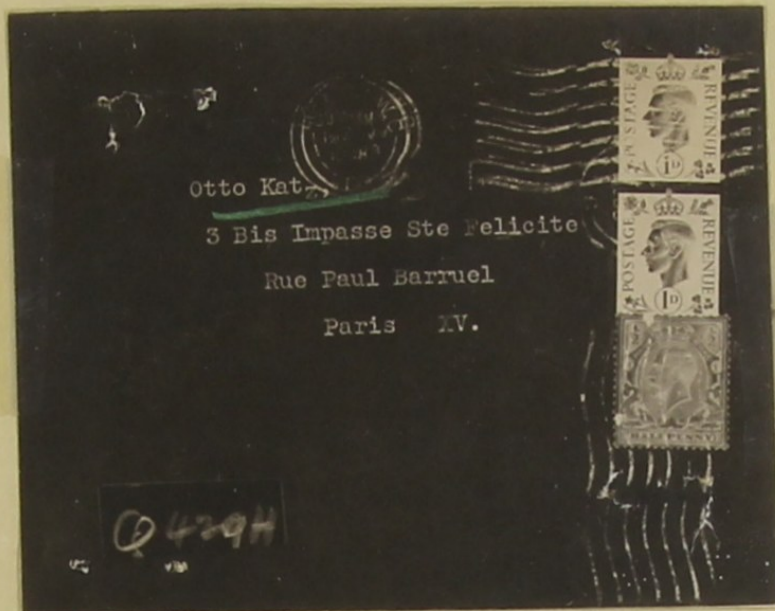
Addressing, wrapping and postage - £5 per 1,000

Q 429 H



Copy. Original filed in L. 158.1185. v.2. 36a.

279A



November 18

*Walter John M. M. M.*  
Dear Otto,

WHAT a bombshell. Honestly I am scared stiff. You simply must either destroy the negatives of the worst or send them to me, and any copies there are PLEASE. Imagine what might happen if the Gestapo ran a burglary or the Surete a raid! HIMMEL. PLEASE.

About all the visas. I have been spending a lot of time getting the 25 communist M.P.s mostly Germans from Czecho into this country. They had been crossed off the list, and were not to get any visas. ~~With~~ I have just got the permit for the whole lot but it has been SOME job. Now I will try and get the Kisch group. But do tell him that it is not that he has to persuade ME. But that I have to persuade the authorities, and my credit is getting exhausted. I will do my very best. Miss Liner came to see me, and I am trying to get all her relations and her camera for her.

I have got an unlimited permit for Wilhelm Koenen provided he is guaranteed a living, and Pritt is doing that I felt a special responsibility to him after the Counter trial.

*handed for articles*  
Lady Rhonda is doing a supplement for L.F. on lines suggested. I enclose the estimate for the £150. We are getting the Jews to pay for the extra on this. It has meant a hell of a lot of work, but the names we have got so far are Bernard Shaw, Philip Guedalla, Neville La ski, Harold Nicholson, Herbert Morrison, Edgar Mowrer and F.A.Voigt. We have a wonderful letter from Freud. Now we are trying to persuade him to let us publish it. Pass all this on to the Big Fellow. As regards H.M. I am doing my best. He is very willing to go but we have gone through his engagement book and really it does look impossible. He is getting to be the biggest man in the movement (and one of the nicest). Anyway we are to go into the whole thing again on Monday to see if it can possibly be done.

Two meetings two articles and the midnight train to Jarrow! Big meeting on Sat night in H.M.'s constituency so will do my best.

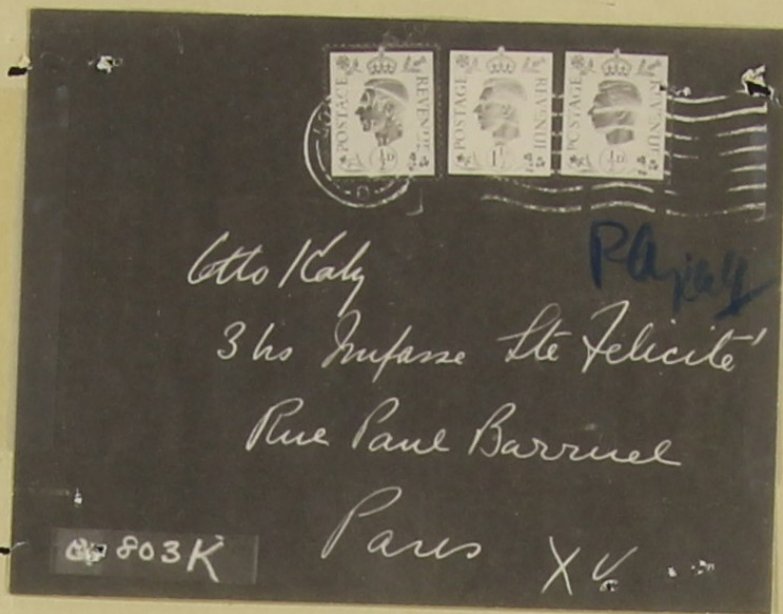
*Love to Mrs.*

*Walter*

*Walter  
30/11/38*



280



*Permanently typed.  
Handwritten reference.*

Dear Otto,

The amount of subscription of the Handards you have had is £3.10. For the coming years subscription the amount is £4.10 including the House of Lords Debates.

This total of £8 does not include postage. That they cannot give me, as it depends on the number of days that the two Houses sits.

In addition £11 is owing to me for three quarters excess telephone calls including cables to America and so on.

And secretarial? November?

Sorry. It all looks a lot, but Spain is draining me dry.

Yours ever,

*[Handwritten signature: Allen]*

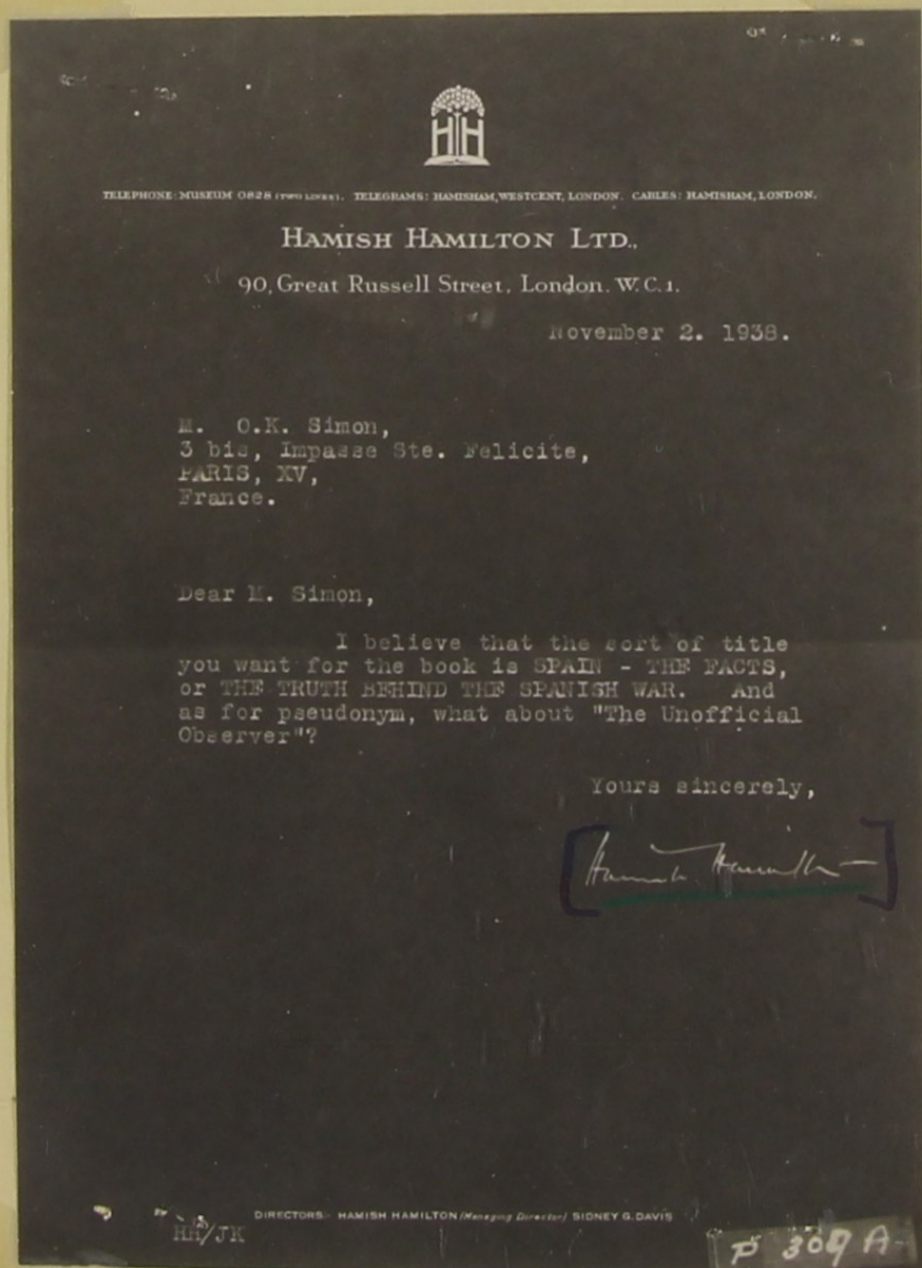
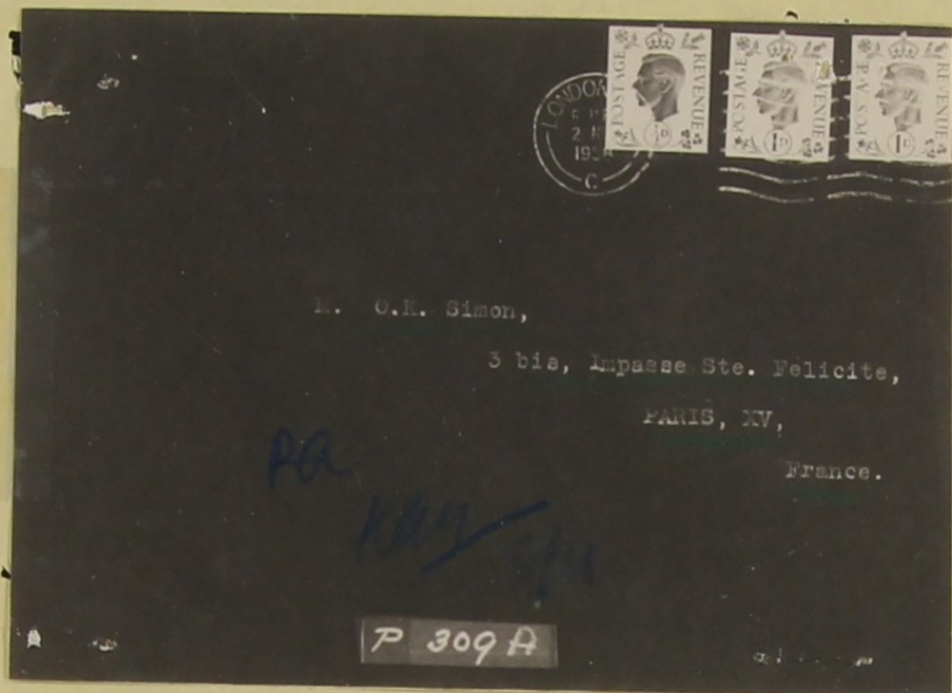
DONT FORGET TO SEND ME EXISTENT COPIES OF THOSE PHOTOS. KEEPS ME AWAKE AT NIGHT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.  
Q.803.K.

*11814  
30/1/38*



277b

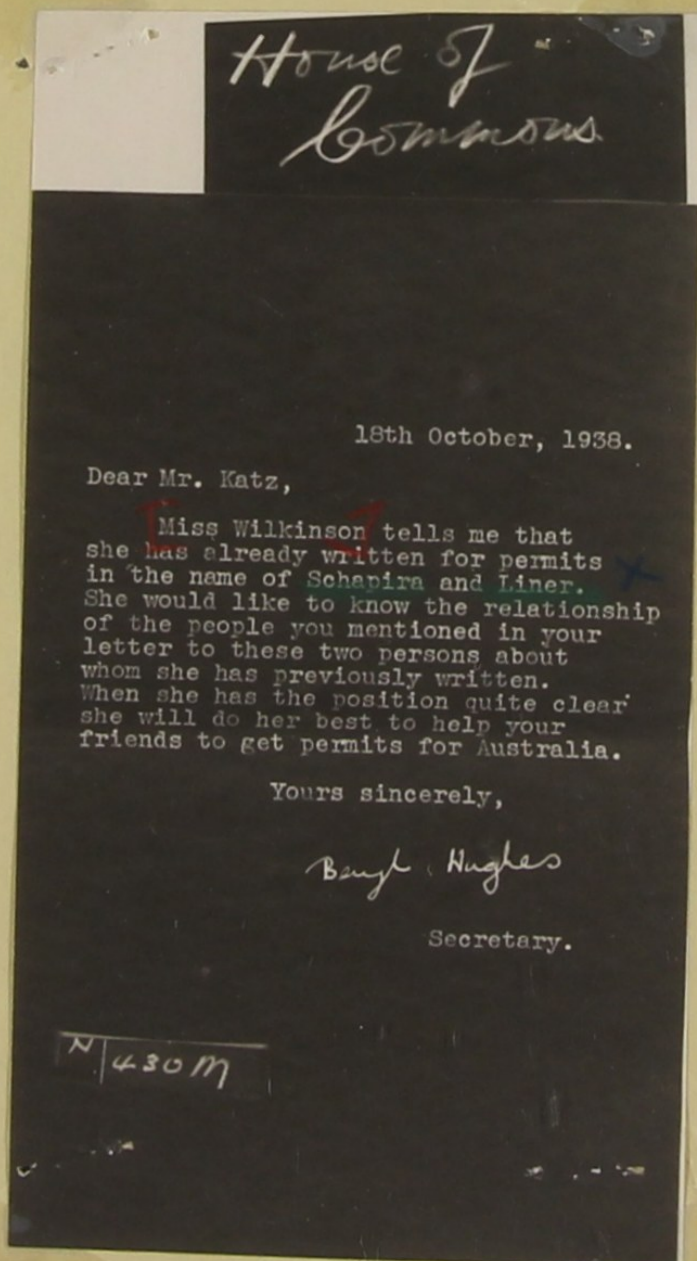
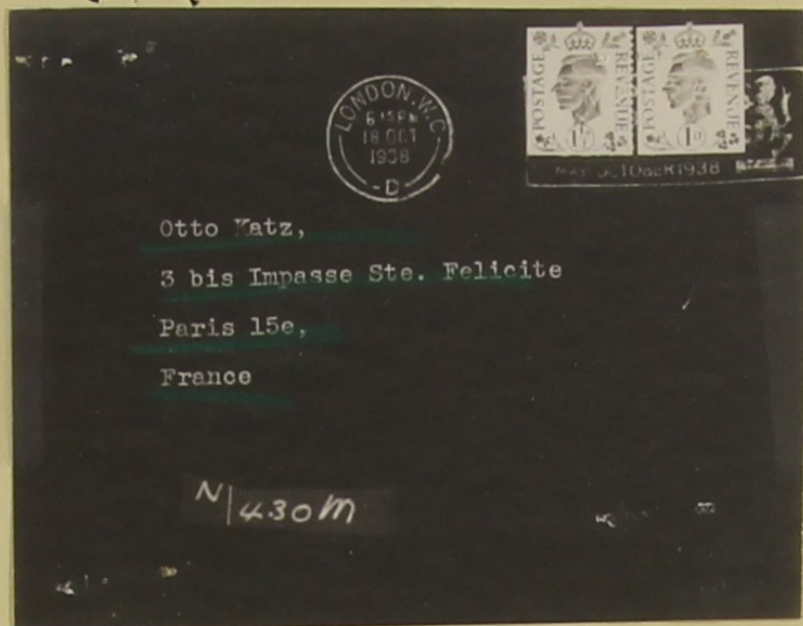


P.F. 53297.

1358  
11/24/38



276P





2766  
P.F.41665

Photostat filed in:- P.F.44300 BERNSTEIN 9a

From Sidney BERNSTEIN,  
36, Golden Square, London, W.

To Otto Katz,  
3 bis, Impasse Ste Felicite,  
Paris XV.

Date of letter 25.10.38.

Summary of Contents

Dear Otto,  
Have tried but can't find anybody who  
will "co-operate". Life in London difficult at  
the moment.

Yours  
Sidney.

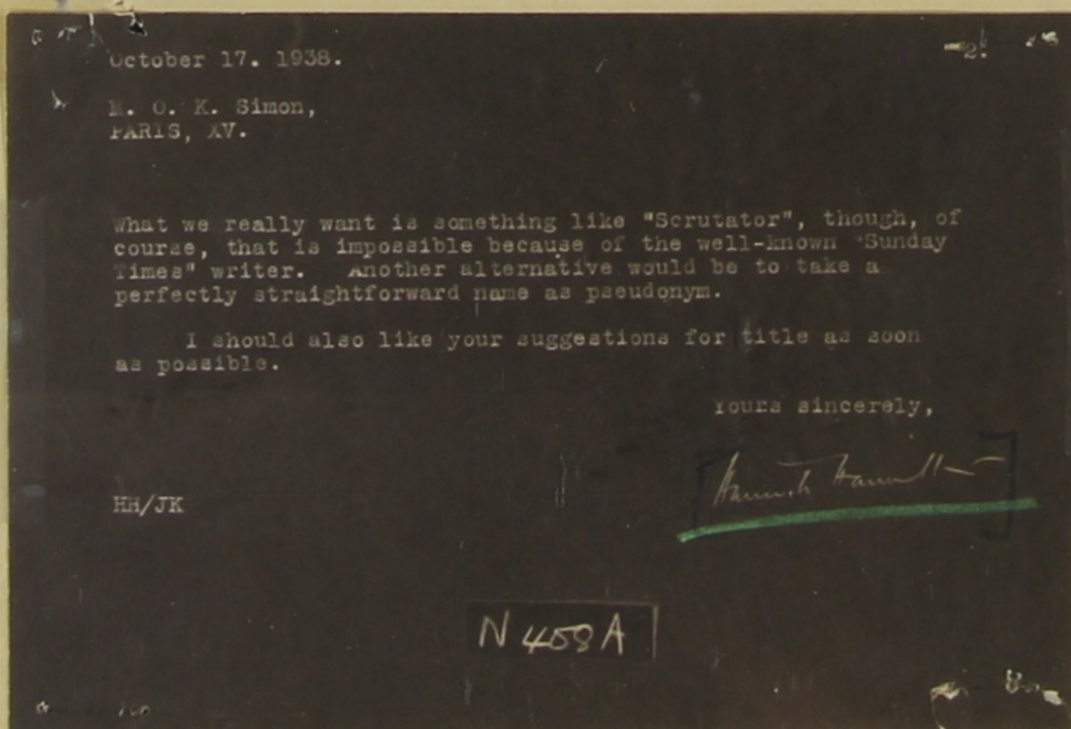
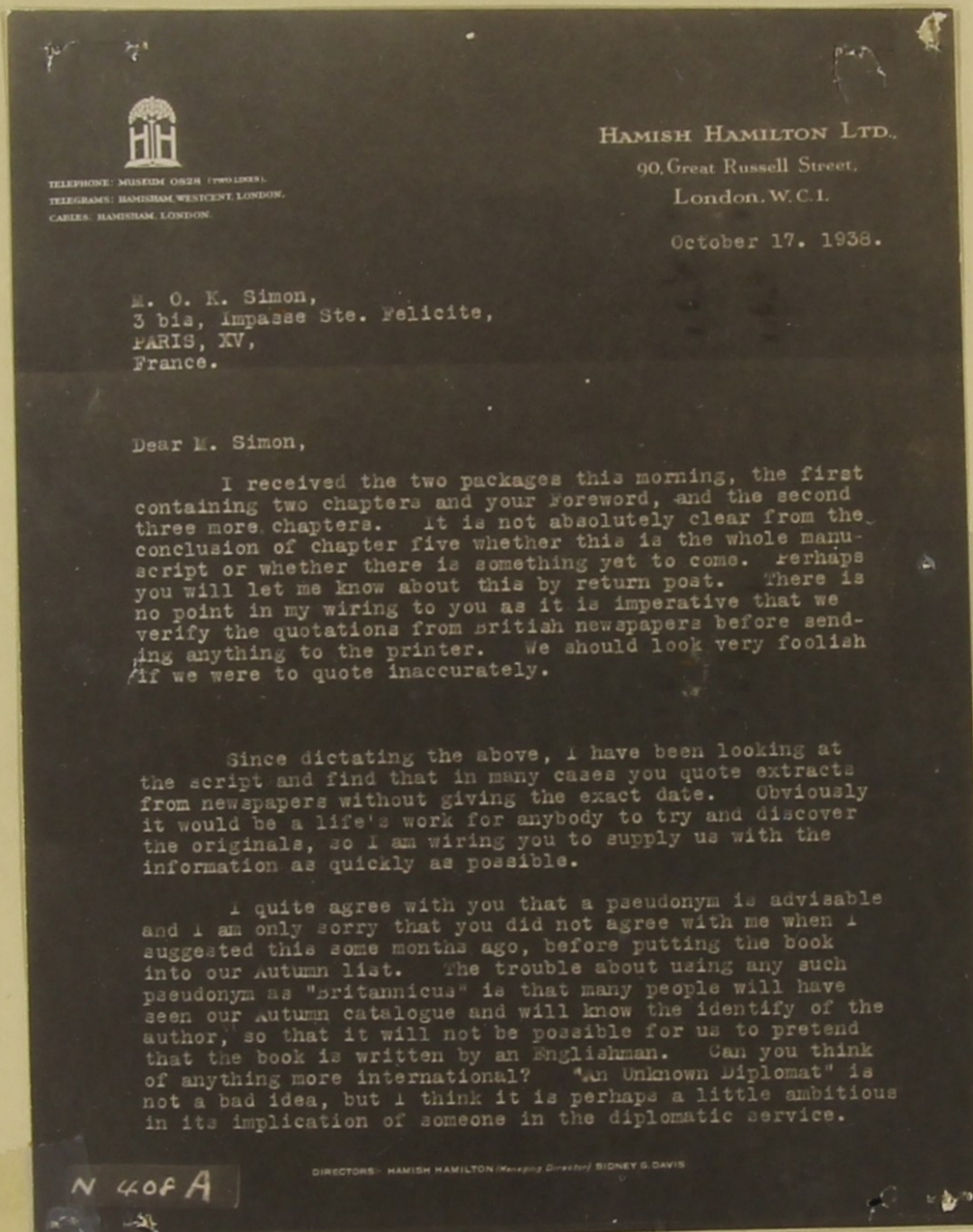
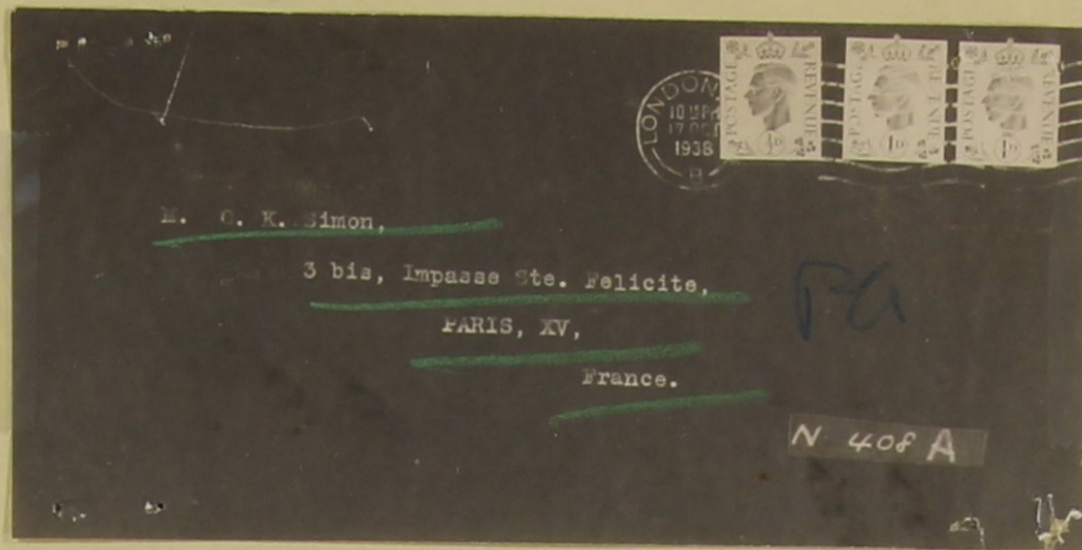
See Minute ( )

E.B.  
2.11.38.

Initials  
(date).



272B

P.F.  
53297Dated  
22/10/38



PF.41664

271a

C R O S S - R E F E R E N C E .

SUBJECT:-

Otto KATZ.

On 6th and 13th October 1938, intercepted letters to Otto KATZ, Paris, from the ANGLO-FOREIGN INFORMATION BUREAU, Ltd., of 40 Chancery Lane, W.C.2. enclosed copies of the "Whitehall Letter."

Subsequent information showed that the Director and Secretary of the ANGLO-FOREIGN INFORMATION BUREAU Ltd. is John Cameron WHITE.

PF.45995 WHITE, 11a.12a.

6 &amp; 13.10.38.

Original in.....dated.....

DG.

26.10.38.

S. Form 81.



DEPARTURE.

270A

P.F. 41664.

PACIFIC.

B4B3

12/6

Copy of Card in Traffic Index.Port of Disembarkation  
abroad

Paris

Name KATZ OttoAge 43 SexNames and ages of dependents  
under 16 accompanyingOccupation WriterNationality CzechoslovakAddress in United Kingdom Howard Hotel, London

I.O. Stamp No

Port

Croydon

Date

5/10/38

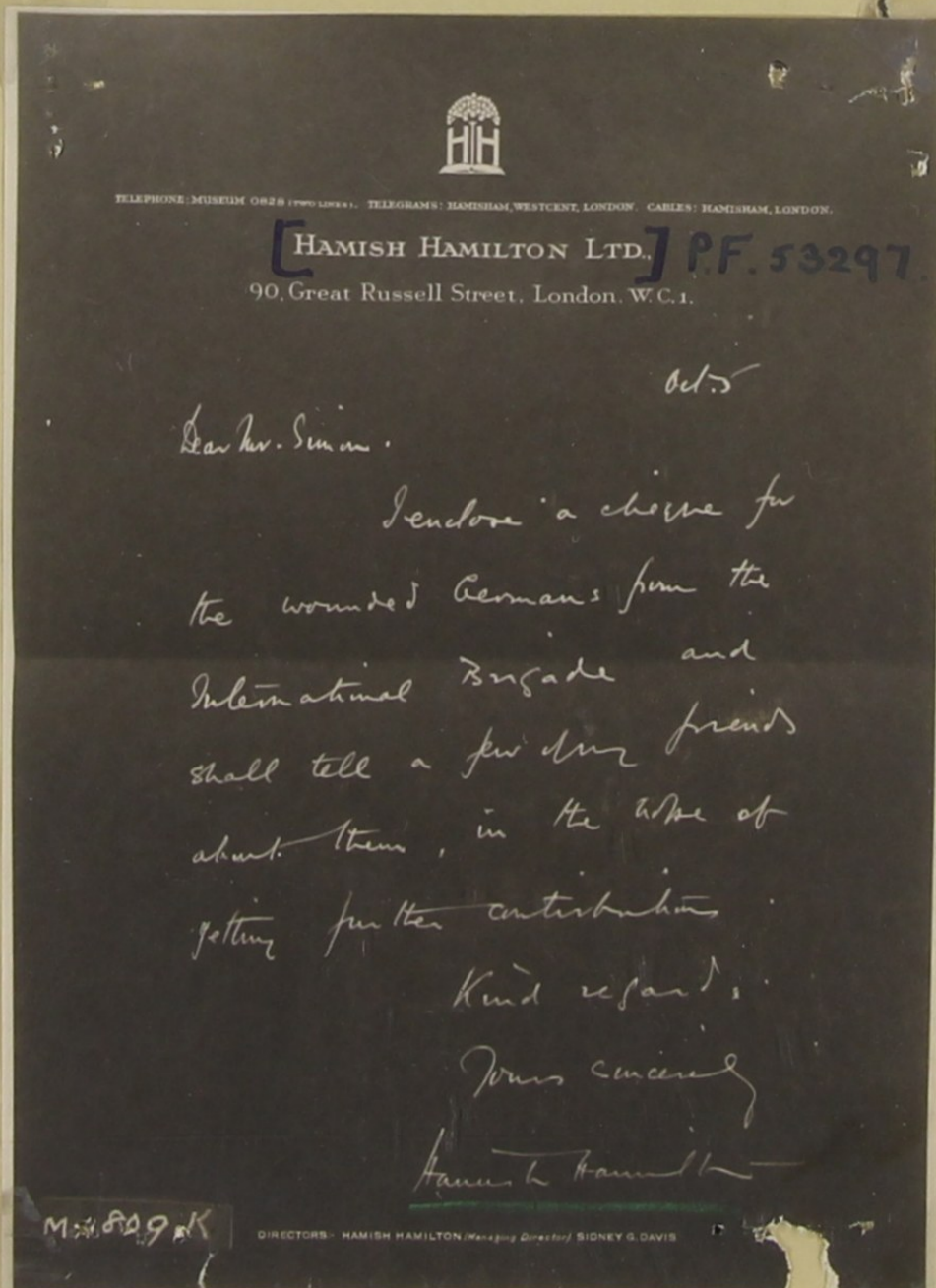
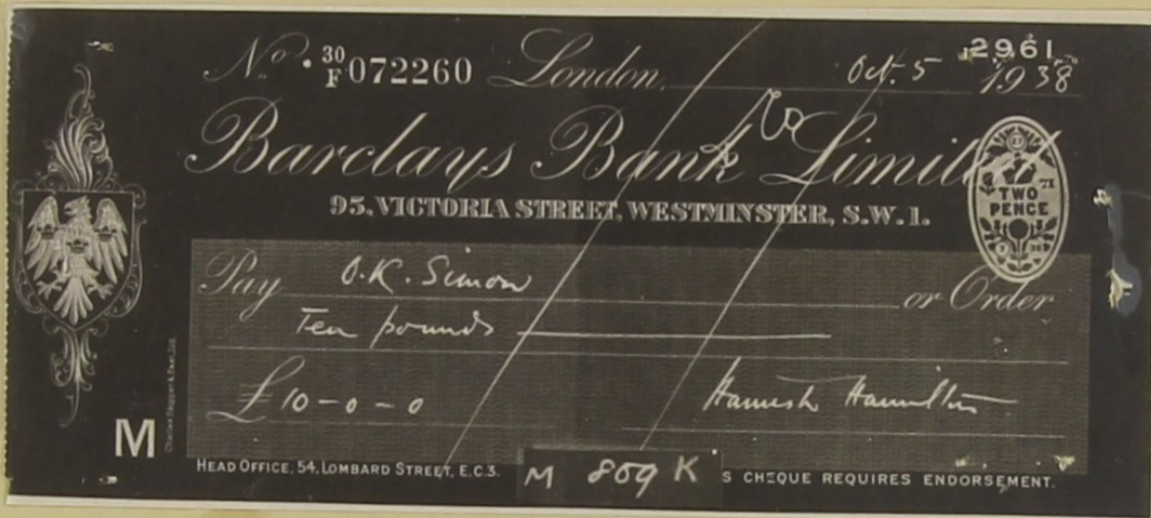
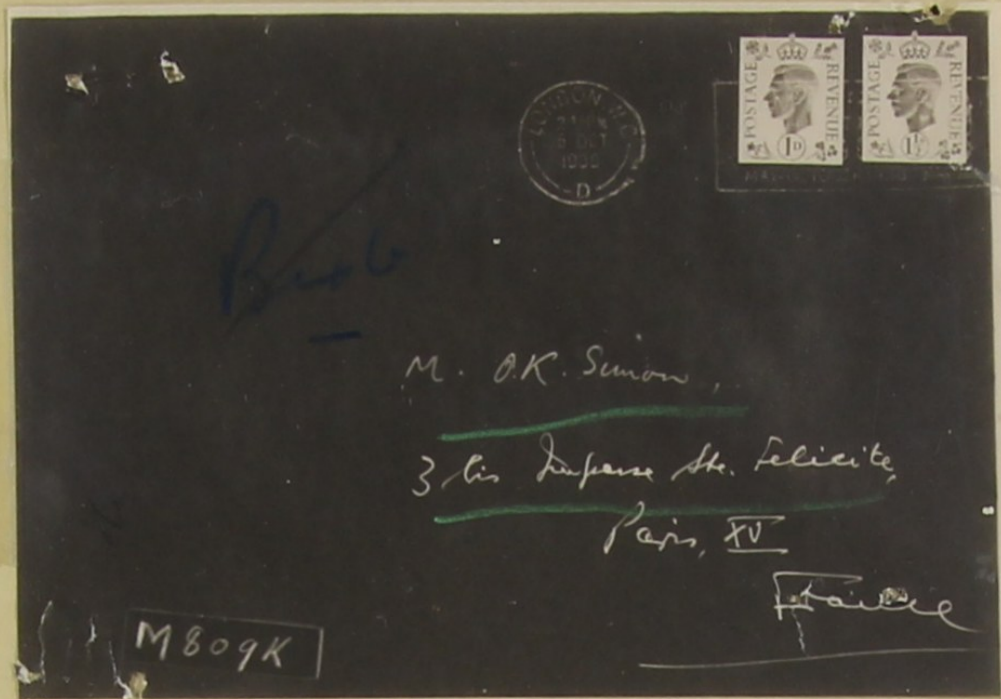
Description of passenger  
and class travelled

Other information

1157  
13/10/38



269A



noted in  
SF 427/6

19th  
10/10/38



S.B. No. 1 (Flimsy).

PORT OF CROYDON.  
METROPOLITAN POLICE.

COPY

268a  
4664

Special Report }

SPECIAL BRANCH,

Metropolitan Police,

Scotland House,

SUBJECT.....

5th day of October 1938.

Otto KATZ.

In confirmation of telephone message to  
Superintendent at 11.5 a.m. today.

Reference to Papers.

Otto KATZ, subject of Special Branch suspect  
book, left Croydon, for Paris, at 11 a.m. today. He  
appeared to be travelling alone and gave his address  
here as - The Howard Hotel, London.

300/WIR/32,  
M.I.5

Submitted,

*John Glegg*  
Sergeant.

P.C.

*W. H. M. Smith*  
Superintendent.

*M. H. M.*



AIRPORT of CROYDON.  
METROPOLITAN POLICE.

1141684  
COPY  
267

S.B. No. 1 (Flimsy).

SPECIAL BRANCH,

Special Report }

Metropolitan Police,

Scotland House,

SUBJECT

Otto

5th day of October, 1938.

KATZ.

Reference to Papers.

300/WIR/32.

1.5.

In confirmation of telephone message to  
Superintendent at 12-35 p.m. this day :-

Otto KATZ, Czechoslovakian, travelling on  
Passport No. 2214 issued Paris 16th July, 1938, arrived at  
Croydon from Paris at 12-25 p.m. today.

He was not interrogated as to the purpose of  
his stay, but was landed on Home Office instruction for a  
period of fourteen days. It is understood, however, that  
his arrival is expected by Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P.

KATZ left for Town (Dorchester House) in Air-  
France coach, A.X.U. 851. at 12-30 p.m. He gave his  
intended address as Howard Hotel, Norfolk Street, W.C.2.

Gordon A Brown.  
Sergeant.

Please ✓  
*[Signature]*  
SUPERINTENDENT.



ARRIVAL.Copy of Card in Traffic Index.Port of Embarkation  
abroad

Le Buzet

PF 41664  
B4B  
W/10

Name

KATZ Otto

Age

43

Sex

Names and ages of dependents  
under 16 accompanying

Occupation

Turnalist or Writer

Nationality

Czechoslovak

Nationality at Birth

Austrian

Proposed address in United Kingdom

Howard Hotel London

I.O. Stamp No

Port

Cayden

Date

3/10/38

Description of passenger  
and class travelled

Vint

Other information

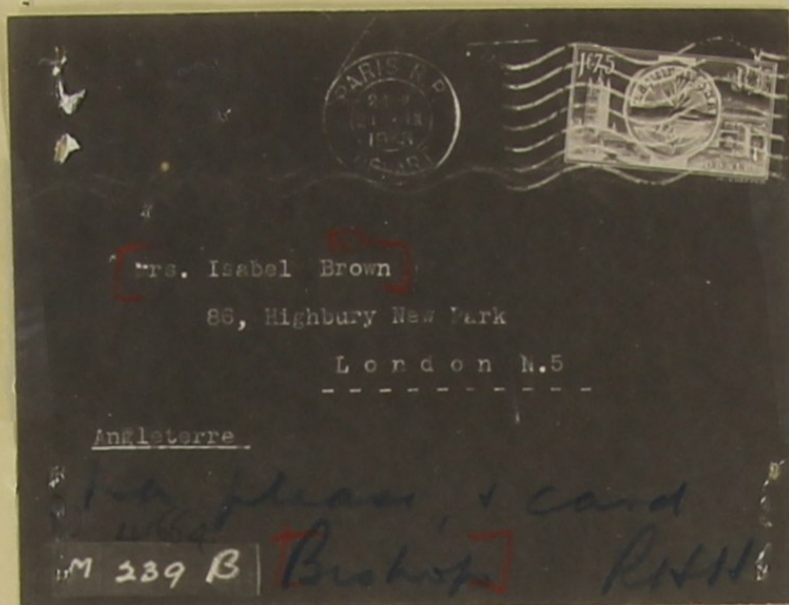
Rpt- 2214 - Paris - 16/7/38

On H.O. instructions

Bm. Born 27/5/95 at Tistebure

Conditionally landed for 14 days.





PF 41664  
A3E  
B-1 2/3

bis Impasse Ste Élisabeth  
Paris XV  
21st September 1938

Dear Isabel,

We are so glad and reassured to hear that this nasty business of your unfortunate operation seems to have passed comparatively well. Of course those 18 pounds you lost are somewhat frightening, but since you are looking upon this matter from the viewpoint of "youthfulness", "slimness" etc., we are glad to adopt the same attitude and assure you that we are anxiously looking forward to seeing you again in such a state of general improvement. But please don't jeopardize things by starting to work too soon. Take your time and have a good long rest and follow the doctor's advice strictly!

I wonder how you took the blow of recent events on top of all your personal trouble. I must confess that we feel somewhat staggered at the sight of this gigantic crushdown which goes beyond the expectations of even the most pessimistic minds. *people* ~~we~~ *people* feel inclined to dig head first into the earth in order not to see and hear what is to follow yet.

But since we are not allowed to yield to such inclination I take advantage of your offer "not to hesitate to make suggestions for work" for the "extra people" you say you have at your disposal.

1) Ellen has suggested in a letter to me to engage a man called Bishop for the Parliamentary Committee. I told Ellen to get in touch with you and to consider the matter with you. She confirmed me thereupon that she has written a long letter to you about this question, and I would be glad if you would let me know urgently what you have decided.

2) Louis proposes that a pamphlet should be published urgently by the Parliamentary Committee about the situation in Spanish Marokko where some trouble is going on, it appears. DUUF should have the necessary material for that. If you agree, please have this done immediately.

Did you read del Vayo's refreshing speech in Geneva?

I had information this morning that the ~~EXXXXXXX~~ Chechs have accepted under the pressure of a regular English and French ultimatum! This moment a telephone call comes in from London saying that Cabinet and parties are still in session and will be for still a couple of hours, because the parties are opposed to acceptance, and that probably thereupon the Government will reverse its decision. Well, we will see.

In a hurry, and with best wishes for your health from both of us,

*Her grand father's*  
*and mother's speech*

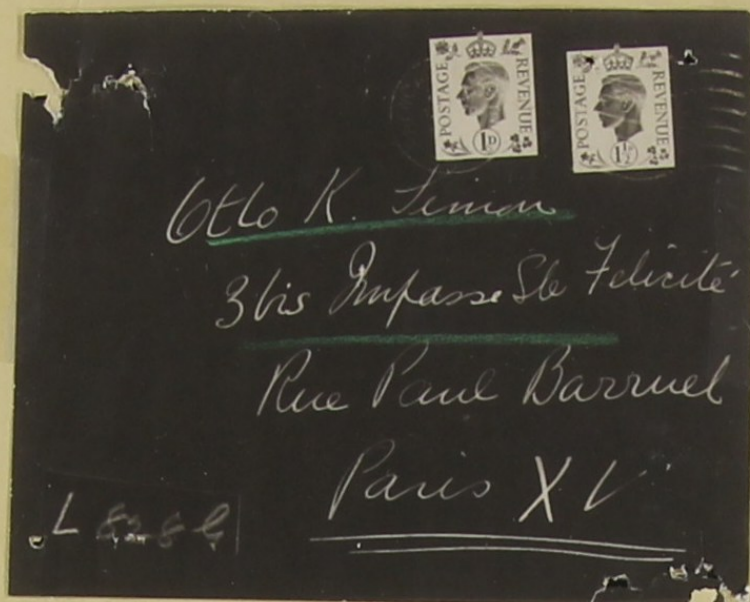
Yours as ever, *Otto*

M 239 B

267A



Enclosure now filed in SF 427/U.K./1 vol.54.<sup>3</sup>



Station Hotel, Newcastle on Tyne  
Telephone 20781  
Till Friday night late.

Dear Otto,

Wilfred and I and Margaret Stewart had a long session together yesterday, and I enclose to you the report on a month's work that Margaret produced. Considering that it was the holiday month, with all of us away, she did pretty well. Will you send this on to L.F. as I have only this copy with me and I do not know his address at Geneva.

As L. was anxious for us to broaden this work, which is getting a good response...we discussed future plans. The Alba Bureau, (Friends of Nationalist Spain) is undertaking a house to house distribution of literature in those constituencies whose members are conspicuous on the other side. Mine was first honoured...I think I told you in my previous letter...but it is spreading to others. We are arranging for an answer to this and offering it to any M.P. who is troubled. We think it would be well to offer say 10,000 free leaflets to each M.P. who is being worried for distribution in his constituency. This solves that difficult distribution problem as of course the party organisation would see to that.

Alba is also busy in the press. His press agent writes to every editor where anything derogatory to Spain appears flatly denying it as a canard. Time and Tide is having a lot of this. And we fear it is having its effect on the provincial papers. As they are getting so active, we feel we must meet it at once.

I have interviewed the man whom Lasri recommended I knew his work in other directions but he has come through the writing (journalistic) test very well. His stuff has punch. Wilfred felt that we should get someone immediately, so I have provisionally engaged him. This will need a telegram of confirmation as he must get free from his present job. I think we shall have got an extremely valuable worker who is also a proved good organiser. If, as Margaret says, she wants to go back to Wilfred as soon as possible, after he has got the ropes in his hand he could take over. If M. wants to stay he will have his hands full with the writing stuff anyway.

As regards cash, we are going to try to raise sufficient for office exes, rent telephone etc. Wilfred and I understand from my conversation with L. that he would pay these printing bills and this salary separate from previous budget grant. I will have to be done in a big way if at all...and quickly.



266A

Please use in any case.

If I get a telegram from you this week, I think Mr. Bishop could start Sept 26...though for that week he might only be able to give part time, taking home the stuff that had to be answered. All would then be clear for the October campaign. We have lost Felice Clark, Isabel's find to the National Joint Committee, but I think she will be better at that job, and we can borrow her in emergencies.

We have also decided to hold an important Private conference on press, publicity and propaganda and relief methods for Spain of all the committees in mid October. That will get things ready nicely for the opening of Parliament.

P.F. 42437.

P.F. 46439

Will you tell Madeleine Braun that I cannot get hold of Acland. I have had a long talk with Wilfred who is against any English going to Geneva while Halifax is in London. It would be regarded as foolish to leave our duties as M.P.s here to talk to his subordinate Butler in Geneva. We are however thinking of arranging an important deputation to Halifax the moment this immediate crisis in C.S. is resolved one way or the other.

I hope you have the proper feelings of respect as a Sudeten to your Liberator!! I am told that when Attlee was at 10 Downing Street with Churchill and Halifax, they were all trying to put a spot of resolution into N.C. But my belief remains as I told you that N.C. knows more about what Hitler intends than anyone in this country. Mm

Yours.

Ellen

Suggested L6 for Bishop

L 828 8



263A

PF 41664

CROSS - REFERENCE.

SUBJECT:- Otto KATZ.

31.7.38.

In an intercepted letter from Groehl to Otten it was stated that according to H. von Zwehl Otto Katz had been the originator of the "Reichenau Lecture."

PF 45807 v.2. 74a.

as above.

Original in.....dated.....

MGH  
24.8.38.

Form 81.



262A

Copy Original in:-

455/41/B.4b

29th July, 1938.

Dear Vivian,

With reference to your CX/ \* dated 28.7.38, and your telephone conversation with Younger yesterday afternoon, we have seen a letter from Philip JORDAN to Otto KATZ (mentioned in your CX/ /4109, dated 11.4.38) in which he asks for the German original of the lecture published by the "News Chronicle". He says that he has been the subject of many attacks, and the original will strengthen the position of the "News Chronicle". It seemed a fair inference from this that the information about General von REICHENAU's alleged lecture reached the "News Chronicle" by way of Otto KATZ and Philip JORDAN.

Philip JORDAN has been reported to us on various occasions as a member of the Communist Party. Whether this is true or not he is certainly a communist sympathiser and at one time assisted Claud COCKBURN with "The Week".

With regard to the general position of the "News Chronicle" we have no reason to suppose that the paper is in any way under communist control. It has been moving gradually to the left in the last year or so, and is regarded by communists as a much more sympathetic paper than, for instance, the "Daily Herald". On the other hand, it has recently published a number of leading articles on the Popular Front in which a strongly anti-communist point of view has been expressed. We know of six members of the staff who are either Communist Party members or sympathisers.

Yours sincerely,

Major V. Vivian, C.B.E.,  
S.I.S.

\* Enquiry from S.I.S. re article by Gen. von REICHENAU on German operations in Spain, published in "News Chronicle", "Humanité" & other papers. Article is suspected by Deuxieme Bureau of having been fabricated by the Russians.



Route GOVT. Serial No. 5034. No. of Words 14. Copied by 30.8.38

From ELLEN LONDON (HOL.9674) — *Wickinson*

To KATZ MENANDIERE CANARY VAR. *26*

Date 27.8.38.

No. \_\_\_\_\_

WIRE [KISCH] WINTERTON WIRED VIENNA PERSONALLY SIX MONTHS  
PERMIT.

ELLEN.

✓ Join per  
@to Katz file

Copy in PF. 41804 (Kisch).

also join Kisch  
CNC 2/1x

Ho. bills show that Kisch has not  
applied for permit to enter to UK.  
(File removed on 14/1x) (CNC 14/1x)

PA

Dax  
15/9/3



264a

P.F.41664. KATZ.

C R O S S - R E F E R E N C E .SUBJECT:- KATZ, OttoInt: letter No.H.569.A., dated ?15.7.38. from Philip JORDAN to Otto KATZ, Paris.

Urgently requests KATZ to send either to him  
or to BARRY the German original of the "lecture we  
+ published the other day".

+ "German Aims in Spain and Portugal" published in the  
"News Chronicle" on Tuesday 12th July, 1938.

Original in... ~~P.F.43202. JORDAN. 18a.~~ .....dated.....?15.7.38.  
S.F.455/41, 13a.

E.S. 27.7.38.

S. Form 81.

✓  
27/7/38



Page 2.

257B

His description is:

Age 43: height 5'6": thick set: pale complexion: clean shaven: hair dark brown turning grey: very noticeable scar from base of nose to chin.

Dress: brown suit: brown shirt and collar: brown tie: brown shoes: dark grey trilby hat. Carrying light macintosh on arm.

*J. Campbell*  
Sergeant.

*W. C. H.*  
SUPERINTENDENT.



S.B. No. 1 (Flimsy).

AIRPORT of HESTON  
**METROPOLITAN POLICE.**

257B COPY

M 41664

28 JUN 1938  
 Special Report }

SPECIAL BRANCH,

Metropolitan Police,

Scotland House,

SUBJECT

Otto KATZ.

26th day of June 1938.

In confirmation of telephone message to Superintendent at 8.13 p.m., to-day:

Reference to Papers.

SB.300/WIR/32.

Otto KATZ, a Czecho-Slovakian citizen, arrived here at 7.10 p.m., to-day from Paris. He was travelling on a Czecho-Slovakian passport No. 333/5630-37, (marked duplicate) issued in London on the 16th July 1937, in which his particulars of birth are shown as 27th May 1895, at Jistebruce.

He described himself as a writer and stated that he wished to stay in this country for a week in order to visit Miss Ellen WILKINSON, M.P., and also his publishers Victor Gollancz Ltd., 14, Henrietta Street, W.C. His intended address was given as the Howard Hotel, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C.

There was a little delay by the Immigration authorities owing to the fact that the alien appears in the Home Office suspect book to be refused leave to land, but he was eventually landed for fourteen days. KATZ added that Miss Ellen WILKINSON, M.P., had notified Home Office of his intended visit and had obtained permission for him to be landed on arrival. KATZ left this airport by taxi at 8.10 p.m., for Hounslow West station having been given a railway ticket to Piccadilly Circus by the air line company.

It was discreetly ascertained that he has reserved accommodation on the outward aeroplane to Paris to leave here at 7.50 p.m., Tuesday, 28th June 1938.

His baggage consisted of one small case containing night attire and toilet articles.



-2-

Neither KATZ not WERTHEIM, left instructions as to what time they were to be called in the morning but it is not thought that they will leave the hotel before 10 a.m.

Edward Burt.  
P.C.

Submitted.

*J. J. Thompson*  
Inspector.

*Chas. E. For*  
SUPERINTENDENT.



COPY

Special Branch.

24th June, 1938.

As requested by minute dated 7th June, 1938, on H.O. file K.694, regarding Otto KATZ, a Czecho-Slovakian, discreet enquiry has been made as to the necessity from a business point of view for his frequent visits to the United Kingdom.

The only publishers mentioned on the file to be seen by Otto Katz as reasons for his visit here are  
 [sf 455/36.  
 Messrs. Victor Gollancz, } Ltd., and Messrs. John Lane.

As Victor Gollancz of the former concern is known to be a secret and a very active member of the Communist Party, no enquiry has been made there.

Upon discreet enquiry at ~~RECORDED~~ John Lane, Bodley Head Ltd., Galen Court, Bury Street, W.C., I was informed that the original firm, John Lane Ltd., went into liquidation and business resumed under the new style in 1936.

The only connection the former firm of John Lane had with Otto Katz was in his capacity as agent for Editions du Carrefour, formerly of 169, Boulevard Saint German, Paris, and now of 83, Boulevard Montparnasse. With this concern John Lane contracted in September, 1933, to publish the following works:-

The Brown Book  
 Reichstag Fire Trial No.1  
 Hitler Re-arms  
 A book by Egon Erwin Kisch and  
 a Biography of Stalin.

A letter dated 19.10.33 from Otto Katz to John Lane states that the copyright of the Editions du ~~RECORDED~~ Carrefour books had been transferred to ~~RECORDED~~ Ivor Montagu who would collect any moneys, under the publishers' contracts, for the Relief Committee of the Victims of German Fascism, 1, Litchfield Street, W.C.2. A considerable sum of money has, however, been due for a considerable time from Ivor Montagu to Lanes and the present company, who took over the original Lane's assets,

Carrefour +



25918

- 2 -

have found Montagu very elusive and no payment has been received.

Similarly money is due to Lanes from Editions du Carrefour and a few days before my call a letter was sent to the latter asking for a "cheque for £50 which was promised by the end of 1935". The present firm of John Lane, Bodley Head Ltd., does not know whether or not Katz is still with Editions du Carrefour.

The records at Galen Court show that the last occasion Otto Katz called on Lanes was in August, 1936, and I was told that there is no trace or recollection of his having called since and that there was no apparent reason why he should do so. He is not known to any of the present staff or to Mr. Howe, a director, who has been in charge of the concern since February, 1937.

In view of the foregoing information it is obvious that the statement in Miss Ellen Wilkinson's letter dated 29.6.37 to Mr. Geoffrey Lloyd that Otto Katz was coming to England "to make arrangements with Gollancz and John Lanes" is incorrect and misleading. It may be mentioned that there are good grounds for assuming that Miss Wilkinson is infatuated with Katz.

Although he may have kept to the letter of his undertaking "To take no part whatever in any political activities in England", he has been observed to associate here with persons who are known to be in subversive propaganda.



H.O.File No.K.694 - KATZ, Otto -

-----  
Minutes.

.....

Mr. Williamson telephoned this afternoon to say that Katz would arrive on Sunday next by air from France. He did not know whether it would be via Croydon or Heston. Miss Ellen Wilkinson had passed on this information.

Chief Inspector to see and to inform Croydon and Heston. Katz may be landed conditionally for 14 days.

30.9.38

W.A.P.

I have spoken to Mr. Harker of M.I.5 regarding the visit tomorrow of Katz telling him that the time might have arrived when the I.O. at Croydon or Heston should closely examine this alien with the object of finding out the real reasons for his visits. Although Mr. Harker felt such an examination would probably do good, he said that in view of the fact that Katz had been allowed to land for periods on the intervention of Miss Ellen Wilkinson little harm could be done in another short visit. Mr. Harker thinks that the visits of Katz are made for other reasons than seeing his publishers, Messrs. Gollancz.

Chief Inspector as in minute of 30.9.38.

1.10.38

W.A.P.

.....

File returned "Seen, thank you" on 29.11.38



H.O. File No.K.694 - KATZ, Otto.

-----

Extract from letter from D.Adnrès Irujo to H.M. Minister,  
dated May 25th, 1938.

OTTO KATZ (SIMON): German jew, expelled from Germany: not a person to be recommended but one with whom there should be no dealings, in fact one to keep clear of altogether. In London, Paris and Geneva he always hangs about (or, rather, used to hang about) the Spanish Embassies and Delegations. He represents no political party nor any organisation that could give him standing or background. He works in propaganda matters and is very closely connected with foreign intellectuals. At the beginning of 1937 he was director of the "Agencia Espana", an agency which, far from giving the desired results, cost the Spanish Government a deal of money, owing to the fact that Mr. Simon is ignorant of many aspects of the Spanish problem and of the Spanish people. The reports which he furnished to the Agency were largely fanciful and earned for the Agency a reputation for inaccuracy and inventiveness which it has cost a lot of work to undo. Mr. Simon is a very intelligent man and surrounds himself with intelligent people.

-----

File returned "Seen, thank you" on 15.7.38.  
(See Minute 260 in File.)



AIRPORT of HESTON

258A  
COPY

S.B. No. 1 (Flimsy).

29 JUN 1938

Special Report }

## METROPOLITAN POLICE.

SPECIAL BRANCH,

Metropolitan Police,

Scotland House,

SUBJECT

28th day of June 1938.

Otto KATZ.

In confirmation of telephone message to Superintendent at 7.55 p.m., to-day:

Reference to Papers.

SB.300/WIR/32

Otto KATZ, a Czecho-Slovakian citizen, subject of Special Branch suspect book, left this port for Paris at 7.50 p.m., this day.

It was discreetly ascertained that he resides in Paris, and his private address is believed to be 3b, Impasse Sainte Félicité, Paris XV. ✓

*G. Campbell*  
Sergeant.

PA ✓

*Chas. G. L. for*  
SUPERINTENDENT.



27th June, 1938.

Re:- OTTO KATZ.

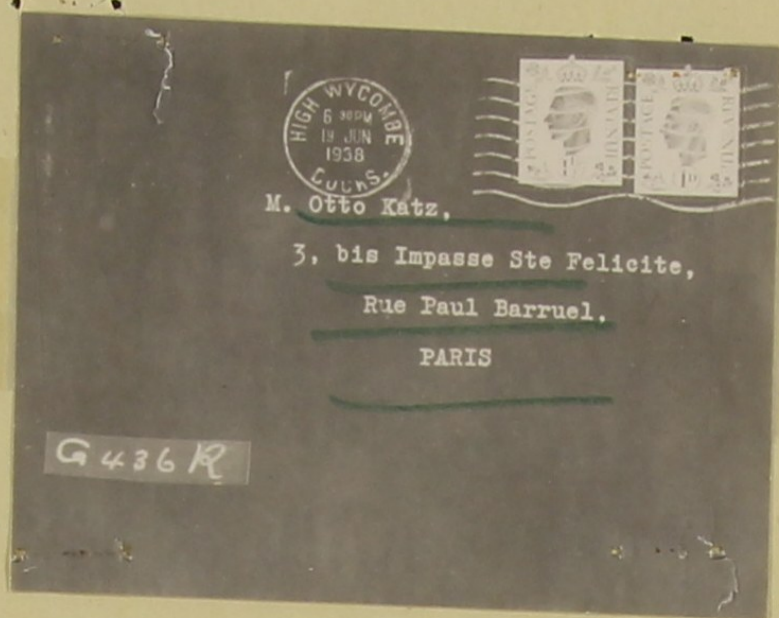
At 9.45. p.m. 26th instant, the following telephone message was received from Thames House:-

" From Chief Constable Canning, Otto Katz, arrived at Heston Airport this evening, and is now at the Howard Hotel, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C. He has been granted 14 days stay in England, but expresses his intention to leave on Tuesday next. Description :- Age 43, 5ft5 or 6, thick set, pale complexion, clean shaven, hair dark brown turning grey, scar from base of nose to chin. Dress, brown suit, shirt tie and shoes, flat top grey trilby, light mackintosh. "

From enquiry at the Howard Hotel it was ascertained that he described himself as a Czechslovakian, gave his profession as a writer and his previous address as 3B, Impasse Str, Felicite, Paris, XV. He was a visitor at the Howard Hotel, on the 6th January, 1938. 21st February, 1938, and the 22nd April, 1938.



256a



House of Commons  
G 436 R

June 19

Dear Otto,

If you can possibly manage it, I think you should make the time to come to England in the course of the next ten days. The advertisement has been a great success, and being in the Times and Telegraph has caused a sensation. I was at dinner with a number of leading civil servants on Saturday night, and the advt. was the main topic of conversation.

We have got things going with Lloyd George. Wilfred and I had a conference with him last week. And we are moving with regard to the supplements. Things are a bit sticky here, and you could help a lot.

Lady R. ondda has finally agreed to let us have a Spanish supplement. This is important because its circulation is almost entirely middle and upper class. It has practically no working class circulation. She will do it for bare net cost... provided that we can secure for her really good articles with names. She is asking Harold Nicolson herself, but wants one or two good Spanish names. Could you get Ramon Sender, and/or Malraux. Or suggest anyone else. What about Luis Quintanilla on Spanish modern art.

Please make an effort to come. I want you to see LL.G. and one or two other people who trust you. And I also want you to have a word with the Duchess, who is having the hell of a time. I have not often made a point of your coming. I do so now, so do try and fix it. Three or four days will be sufficient.

Love to Ilse, and obeisances to L.F.

PA.

G 436 R

Allen

256  
256/104



K694  
K457

255A

Otto Katz, described as an agent of Moscow, was circulated on 4th September, 1933, as to be refused leave to 666546/1. land. This step was taken at the request of M.I.5., who reported that he was a member of the International Secretariat of the "League Against Imperialism," a subversive Communist organisation.

He is also shown in Sir V. Kell's memorandum of 19th 652188/3. October, 1933, as one of the principal organisers of the "International Committee for the Relief of Victims of German Fascism," a Communist controlled organisation posing as non-party. He is the author of "The Brown Book of the Hitler Terror."

Later in 1933 he was allowed to pay visits to the United Kingdom for the purpose of the unofficial "Enquiry" into the Reichstag fire.

In April 1934 Katz was again allowed to enter for 14 days at the request of Lord Marley in connection with the publication of a book. In July of the same year, however, a request for a further visit was refused in spite of support by Lord Lothian.

In May 1935 M.I.5. reported that it had become increasingly evident that he was the personal lieutenant of Willi Munzenberg, an important Comintern Agent. A subsequent application by 160 a Miss Ellen Wilkinson was allowed to drop but in a minute of 17th July, 1935, Sir J. Simon who was then Secretary of State said:-

"K has published a book through Lane and may very well want to see them about another. He kept his undertaking about propaganda and public meetings last time, as far as I can see.

I certainly would not let in a foreign Communist in order to promote subversive activities here and I do not attach importance to Lord Marley's assurances.



255A

But if he wants to come for five days to see his publishers, and gives a proper undertaking, it is not clear to me that he should be refused this single facility. We don't exclude people from this country because of their opinions, but because their probable action would be against good government."

As a result Katz was allowed to come over for ten days in August 1936 in order to attend to private business with his publishers.

Since then he has been allowed to pay no less than six further visits for the same purpose at Miss Wilkinson's request: in March, July and October, 1937 and January, February and April, 1938 for 14 days on each occasion.

It is difficult to believe that his publishers in this country can have needed his presence for six weeks in the first four months of this year and there is presumably some other purpose behind his visits. In any event his "exclusion" from the United Kingdom is for all practical purposes nullified if this sort of thing is to go on and it seems desirable to reconsider the whole affair before the next inevitable request arrives from Miss Wilkinson.

The first step seems to be to ascertain whether he has during his frequent visits honoured the understanding that he should take no part in political activities. We can then ask Police to ascertain from the publishers (Lane's) the strength of the business reasons for the visits.

L.W.C.

20th May, 1938.



H.O. file K.694 Otto KATZ.

255A

There is no reason to believe that Otto KATZ has failed to observe the non-political condition of his visits in so far as this concerns speaking at meetings or engaging in direct propaganda. But KATZ is and has been for many years an important member of the Comintern centre in Paris which directs communist work throughout Western Europe. His duties are those of a travelling Comintern agent, and he has lately visited Spain and the United States to organise communist activity. His visits to England therefore have considerable political significance. It is known that he collaborates with leaders of the British Communist Party and always surrounds his movements with a great deal of secrecy.

We should be interested to hear the result of any enquiries that may be made from the publishers.

AP 86

H.O. file sent over minuted "See memorandum within on the general question of further business visits vis-a-vis the maintenance of the circular. To M.I.5 as proposed."

File returned on 2.6.38 minuted as above.



COPY

British Embassy,

Caldetas - Barcelona.

May 13th, 1938.

Dear Mounsey,

As you know there have been from time to time attacks upon myself on account of my alleged Fascist views. These efforts, as I have known for some time past, have not been confined to making complaints to the Foreign Office but have also been extended to this country. I have indeed been informed that I am suspected in certain circles of deliberately suppressing information in my reports to you. This suppression is alleged to be in connexion with foreign intervention and bombardments. If our reports have not been as full as might be desirable, it is because, as I have pointed to the Government, we are unable in spite of repeated requests to obtain detailed official information.

I believe that the Havas reports (see my telegram No.340 about the Military Attaché not being persona grata here) is part of the same campaign. As you know we have obtained categorical denials of these reports and I have also received a full vote of confidence from the Ministry of State. In fact I am glad to say that the position is about as satisfactory as it can be, assuming that one can believe a word anybody says.

I believe (but in this you can correct me) that at the bottom of these reports are the female Members of Parliament who came out last year and in particular Miss Ellen Wilkinson and also Churchill. My information about Miss Wilkinson comes from a lady of extreme "Red" views, who is or was until recently in closest touch with Government circles here and with members of the Labour Party in England. This lady told me also that a certain Simon, who had something to do with the Propaganda Department for Great Britain (with whom I am entirely unacquainted) was conducting a campaign against me in London and Paris.



- 2 -

I thought it well to make a few enquiries and have received from a Minister of the Government a private note of which the following is a translation:

"Simon is a German Jew expelled from Germany.

"He is very intelligent and works in London and Paris

"with a group of friends. He is a dangerous man

"and has the reputation in the Ministry of State of

"being undesirable and of working always in his own

"interests. I have the impression that from now

"on the information given by this individual will not

"be paid much attention to."

In view of the above you may think it worth while to keep an eye on Simon.

Yours ever,

(Sgd.) JH. Leche.

Sir George Mounsey, KCMG., CB., OBE.,  
Foreign Office.



BUB  
26/5  
254a  
PF.41664C R O S S - R E F E R E N C E.  

---

SUBJECT:- Otto KATZ.

23.5.38.

On 23.5.38 Otto KATZ wrote from Paris to Isobel BROWN, saying that a girl called Jean SHAND had come to see him, saying that Isobel BROWN had given her his address, and she would like to do some work in Paris - KATZ does not know what to do about her, because she can speak no French or any other language, and it would therefore be difficult to find anything for her to do there.

KATZ also wanted to know whether they had been able to publish anything new about Spain, and asked to have a report about what they could do about his 400 page manuscript.

Original in..... PF.40867 SHAND.21b. ....dated..... 23.5.38.

D.G.  
30.5.38.

S. Form 81.



PF.41664 253ACROSS - REFERENCE.

B4a.

24/5.

SUBJECT:-

Otto KATZ.

19th May 1938.

In reply to an enquiry from the American Embassy regarding Louis GIBARTI, they were informed that one of GIBARTI's contacts was Otto KATZ, who was mentioned in letter to them, reference 426/USA/B4b, dated 3.2.38.

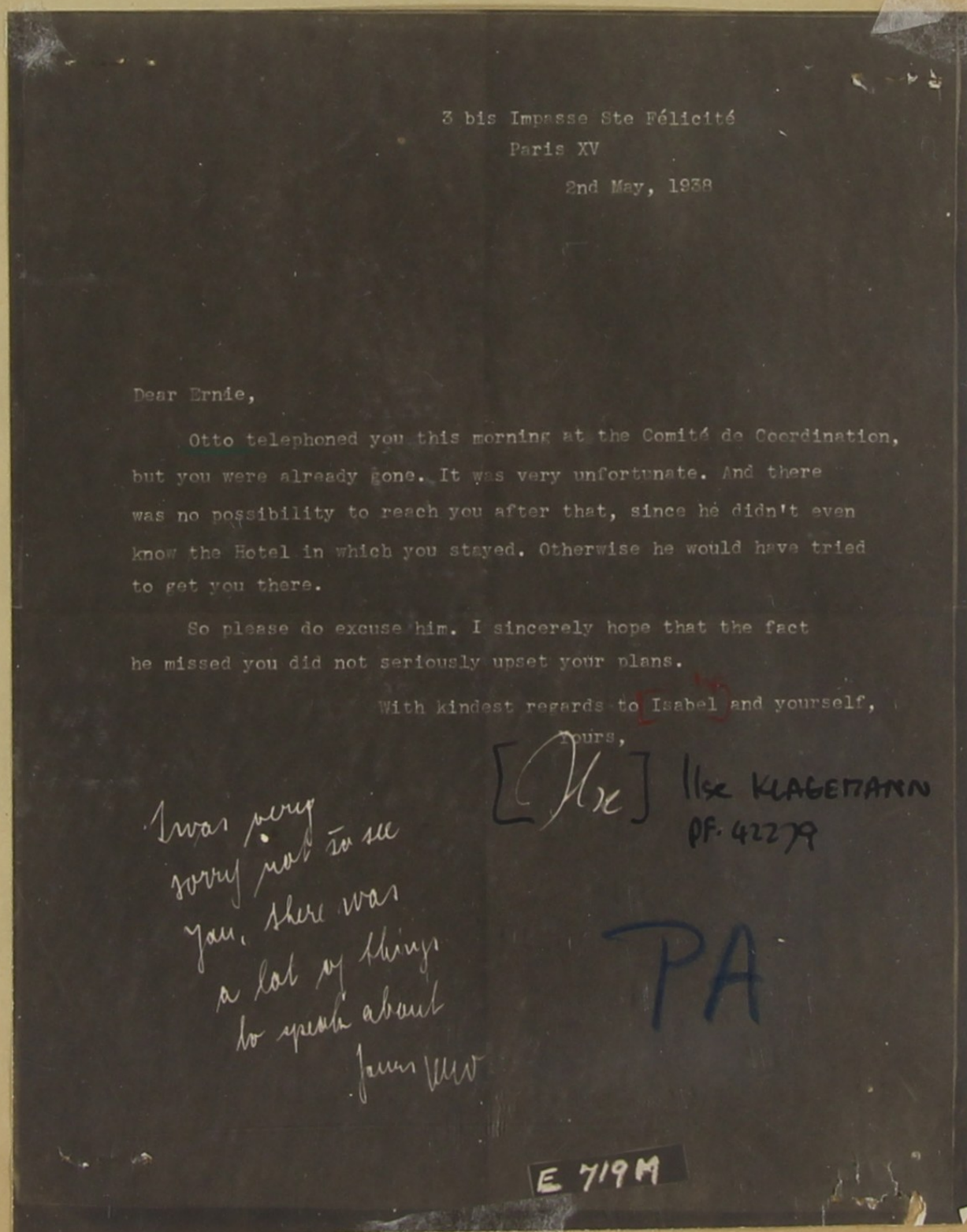
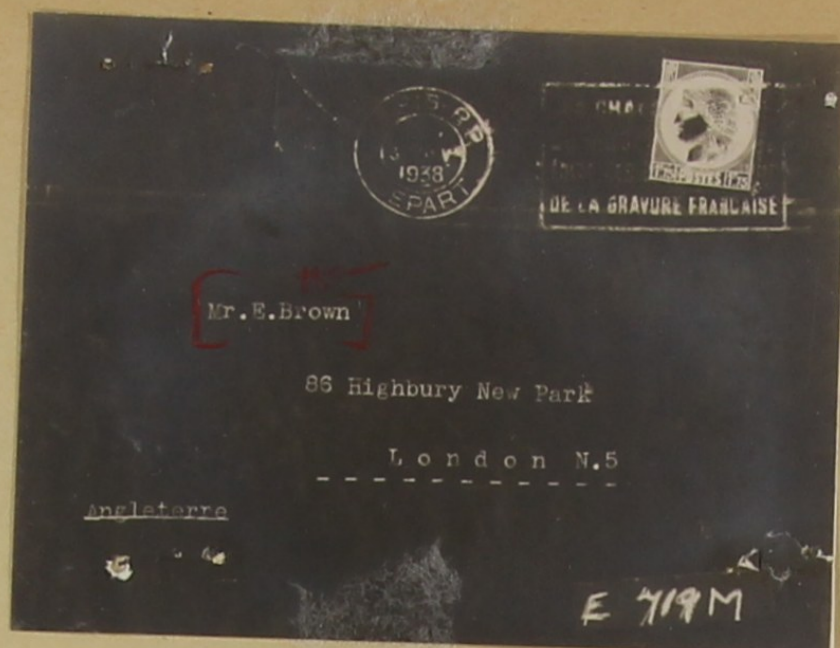
Original in SF.411/USA, v.3. 169a. .... dated. .... 19.5.38.

S. Form 81.

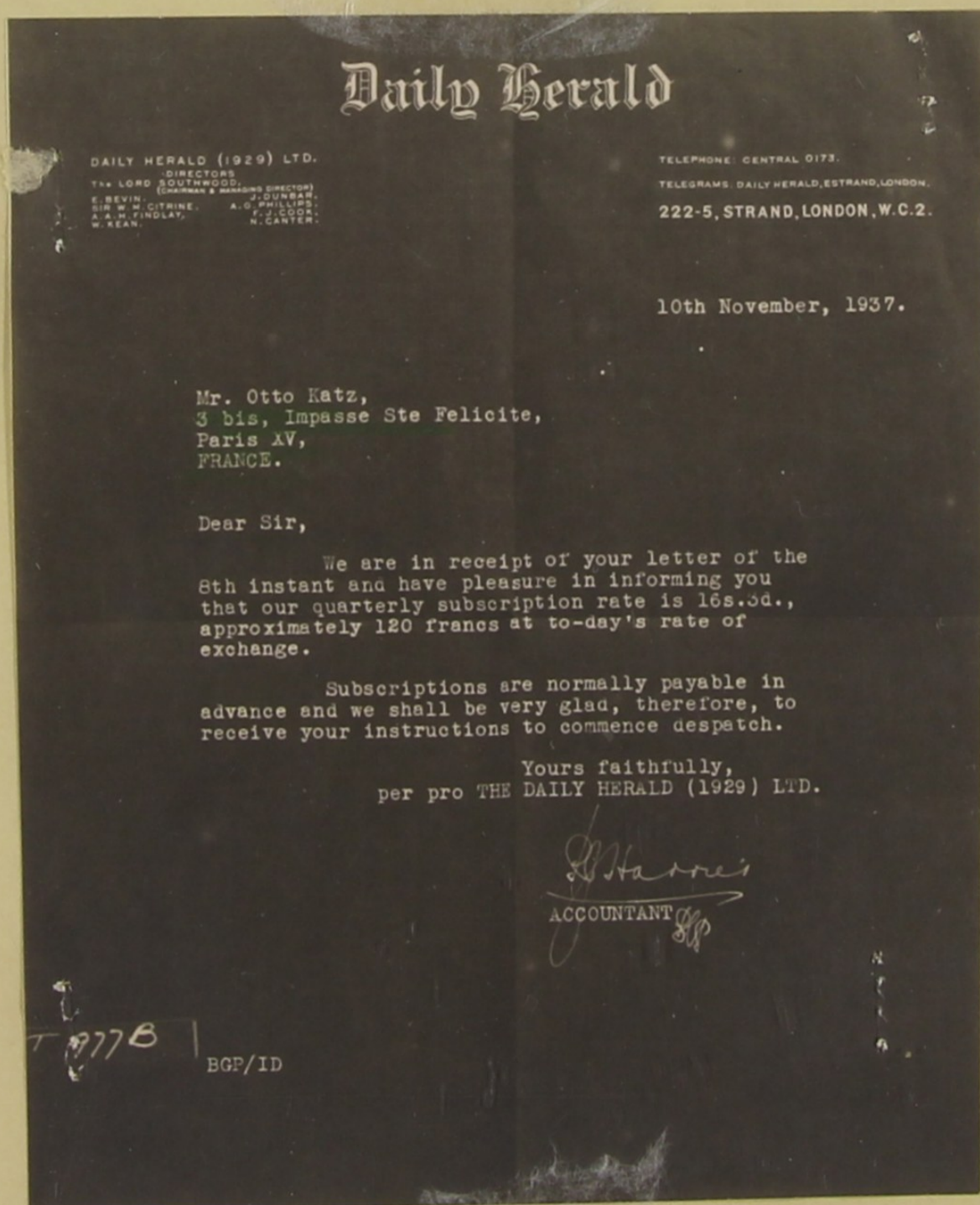
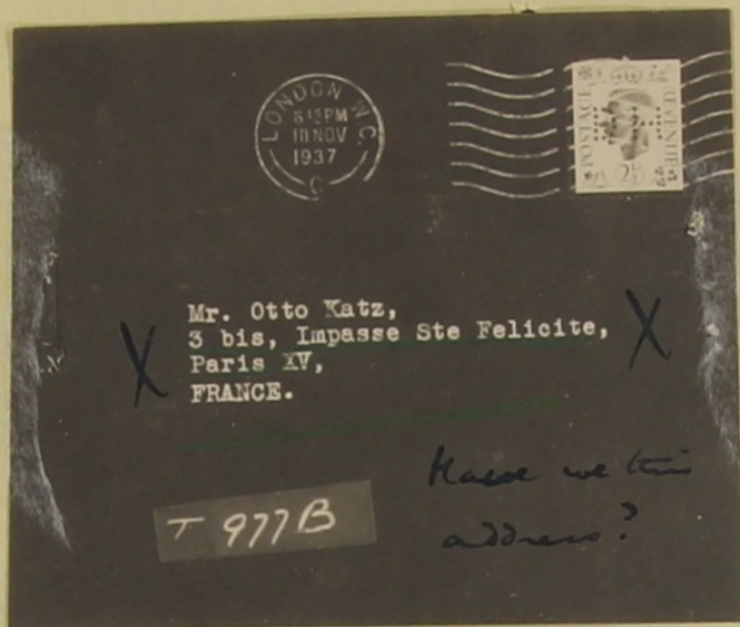
D. G.  
23.5.38.



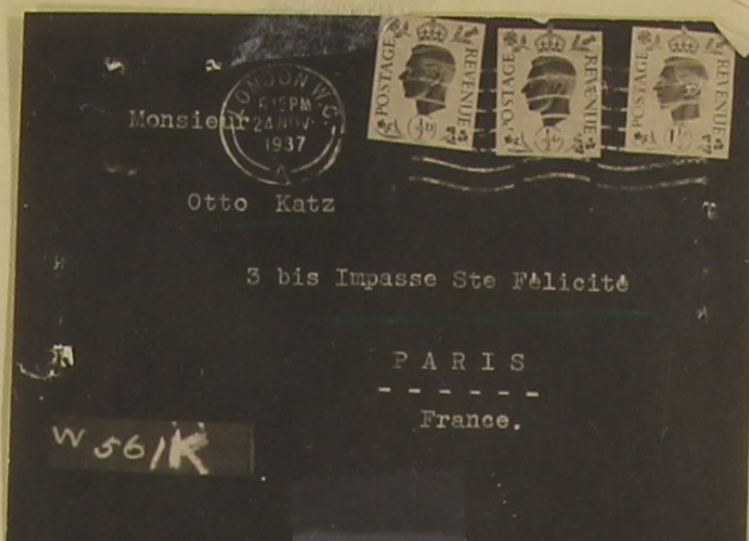
252A











**F**

**POS = CT IVENS CAPA FFICE**

**OVERSEAS TELEGRAM**

Received at Central Telegraph Office.

Official particulars, including Office of Origin.

No. 70204

Office Stamp

14

From

To

===== 165 PARISTEL 522047-18-24-1124

LOUIS FOSCHER STRAND PALACE HOTEL LDN

= VU IVENS STOP J ACCEPTE TOURNER

FILM STOP LETTRE SUIT AUJOURDHUI = CAPA

W 561Kx

Telegrams for all countries in the world and radio-telegrams for ships on all seas are accepted at all Postal Telegraph Offices or may be telephoned to the Post Office.

(2792) 11.37. T. 51-445

**FBI**

TELEPHONE: TEMPLE BAR ROAD (3 LINES)

TELEGRAMS: "LUXURY" HAND, LONDON

CODE: WESTERN UNION

STRAND PALACE HOTEL,  
STRAND, W.C.2.  
LONDON.

November 24th.

Lieber Otto,

Ich renne schrecklich viel herum, se e eine Menge Leute nd habe deshalb nie Zeit. Eins habe ich definitiv gemacht: Attlee, Wilkinson, Noel Baker und Attlee's Sekretär sollen am 2. Dezember nach Spanien fahren. Vorläufig ist das ein Geheimnis. Ich habe schon Barcelona informiert. Einige andere Dinge sind im Feuer. Ich lege das Telegramm von Capa bei. Sprechen Sie mit ihm einleitend. Ich wollte dass er einen Film dreht ueber die Not der Fluechtlinge. Dehl wuerde ich nicht mehr als zehn geben. Ich bin evtl. am 2. Dez. in Paris. Die hiesige Macht wollte eine Militaer-Mission nach Portugal schicken. Als dieses in Lisbon bekannt geworden ist, machten die Deutschen ihren Einfluss geltend und die Sache klappt vorlaeufig nicht... Es scheint, dass der hiesige Aussenminister gerne temps und cover's chef hier sehen wird. um seine Lage zu staerken gegen die Leute, die Halifax ohne seine Zustimmung nach Berlin geschickt haben. Es ist nicht ausgeschlossen, dass Eden die Reise der zwei inspiriert hat. Ob ich einen Vortrag in Paris halten kann, ist mir nicht klar. Wir werden darueber sprechen.

Herzlichen,

W 561K

PF 49488



PC 00033



AIRPORT OF CROYDON.

COPY

S.B. No. 1 (Flimsy).

25 APR 1938

METROPOLITAN POLICE.

25-1a

Special Report }

SPECIAL BRANCH,

Metropolitan Police,

Scotland House,

SUBJECT Otto

24th day of April, 1938

KATZ, Madeleine  
BRAUN née WEILL

Reference to Papers.

500/WIR/32

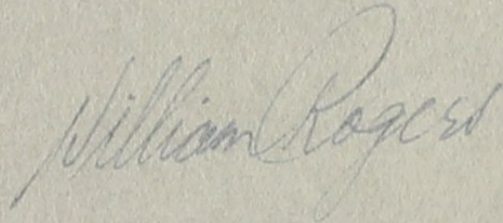
M.I.5.

In confirmation of Croydon telephone message to  
Superintendent at 1.40 p.m. today :-

Otto KATZ, Czecho-Slovakian, subject of Special  
Branch Suspect Book, left Croydon for Paris at 1.30 p.m.  
today. He was accompanied by <sup>P.F. 46439</sup> Madeleine BRAUN } née WEILL,  
who was subject of Croydon report dated 22nd April, 1938.

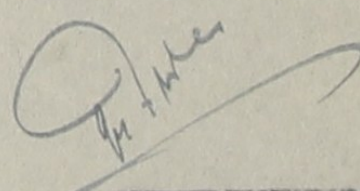
Both gave as their address in London, Howard  
Hotel, W.C.2.

Submitted.



Inspector.

D. Ward P.C.



SUPERINTENDENT.

S.H.S. journeys

M.P.-37-12569/10M 148W



25 APR 1938

AIRPORT OF CROYDON.

4/664

250a

22nd

April,

8

Otto KATZ.

In confirmation of Croydon telephone message to Superintendent at 12-58p.m. this day:

300/WIR/32 MIS.

Otto KATZ, Czechoslovakian, subject of Special Branch Suspect Book, arrived at Croydon from Paris at 12-55p.m. today.

He was accompanied by Miss Ellen WILKINSON, M.P., and the Hon. Ivor Goldsmid Samuel MONTAGU.

KATZ stated that he was compiling a book on world politics and he wished to pay a short visit to this country in order to interview his publisher - <sup>SF 455/33</sup> Victor GOLLANCZ. He was in possession of a telegram addressed to Miss WILKINSON at the Hotel Lutetia, 43, Boulevard Raspail, Paris, 6, which read "Otto KATZ can come tomorrow for the business visit usual conditions". It was signed "Place Home Office".

The alien gave his intended address as the Howard Hotel, W.C.2. and was landed conditionally for 14 days on Home Office authority.

*Ronald Aspinall*  
P.C.

Submitted.

Inspector.

S.H.S. Gourney

*[Signature]*  
SUPERINTENDENT.

PA

1/5  
27/4/38



P.F. 41664.

247B

CROSS - REFERENCE.

SUBJECT:- Otto KATZ.

8.4.38. Int. wire from Otto, Paris, to Ellen  
WILKINSON, 18 Guildford Street, London:-

"Please send copies BING material  
used by GREENWOOD including  
photostats."

Otto is probably identical with Otto KATZ.

Original in... S.F. 427/6 vol.4. 208a. dated... 8.4.38.

S.T. 21.4.38.

S. Form 81e



X E3 ALBANY LONDON W1 X  
REGent 6189

6th April 1938

Dear Otto - I have been away and in my absence find the monthly payment was not made and this brings me to the question that I meant to put to you before I went, and that is, what are you going to do? The arrangement was that you should go away and have a holiday, and a holiday you wanted badly, and then write your book. Now, if you have other work to do which stops you having the holiday and writing the book, wouldn't it be better for the payments to be held over until you are free?

If you need the money now just write back "one line" and it will be arranged, but in this strange world and in these strange times a postponement may be better. But it is as you will. Other news another time.

Greetings to Ilse from us both.

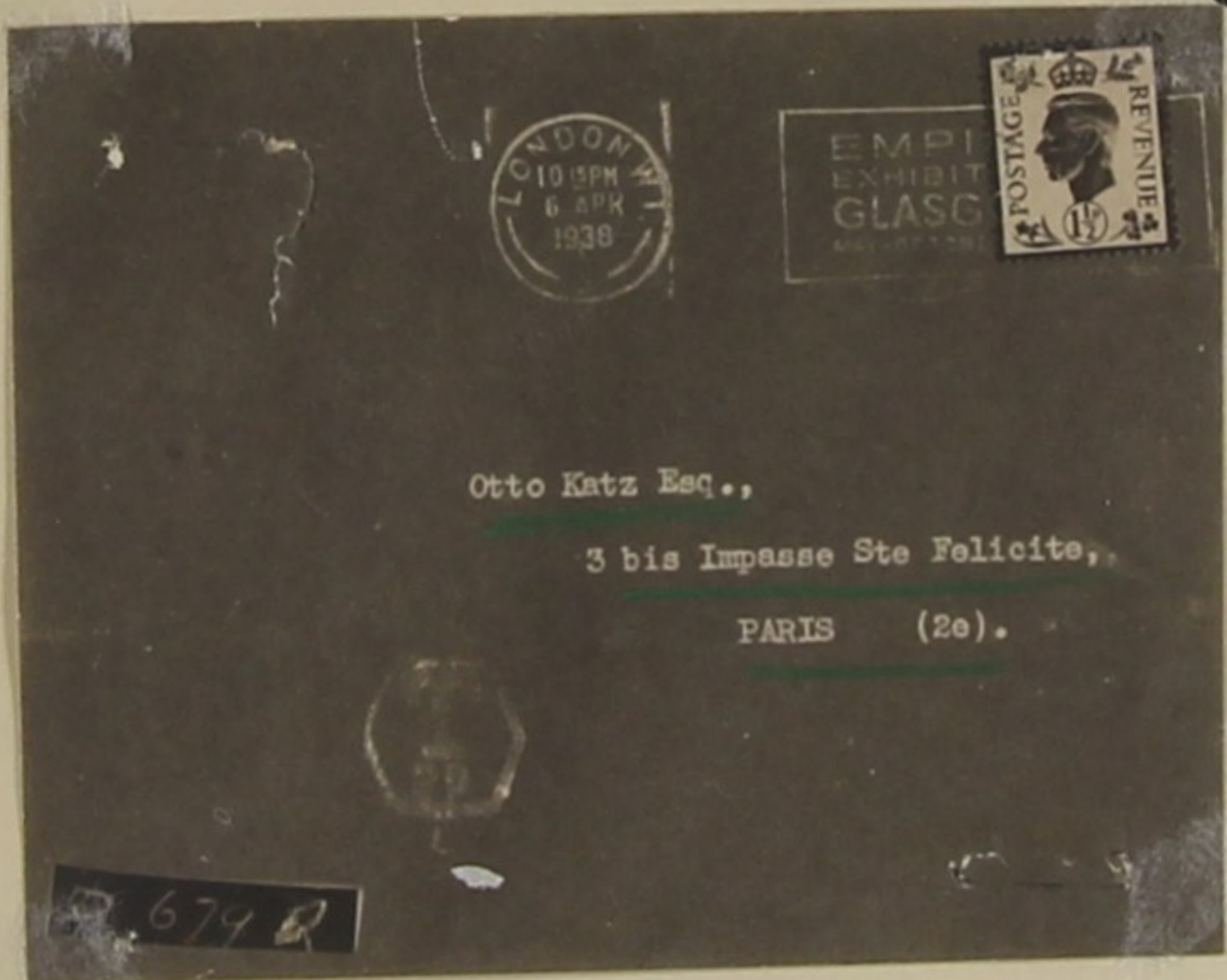
Yours,

X Suey X

679R

2/1/38  
Suey  
3/1







2669  
Sanary, 28th August, 1938

PF 41664

Dear Isabel,

we are writing you from the sunny mediterranean, where we are having a few more days' wonderful time. I hope your treatment is finished and you feel strong and relieved. I hope Kenneth's new bike has successfully resisted to English roads. I will be back on Friday 2nd in the morning in Paris, and I hope then to have a letter from you announcing me that you are all right.

Louis proposes that you should make a reprint of many thousand copies of a comment in the Evening Standard (probably of the 24th or 25th) on Juan March and antisemitism in Franco-Spain. If you agree, will you please have it made and send about 5000 copies to Jay Allen New York. Will you please have forwarded a copy of the Evening Standard to me.

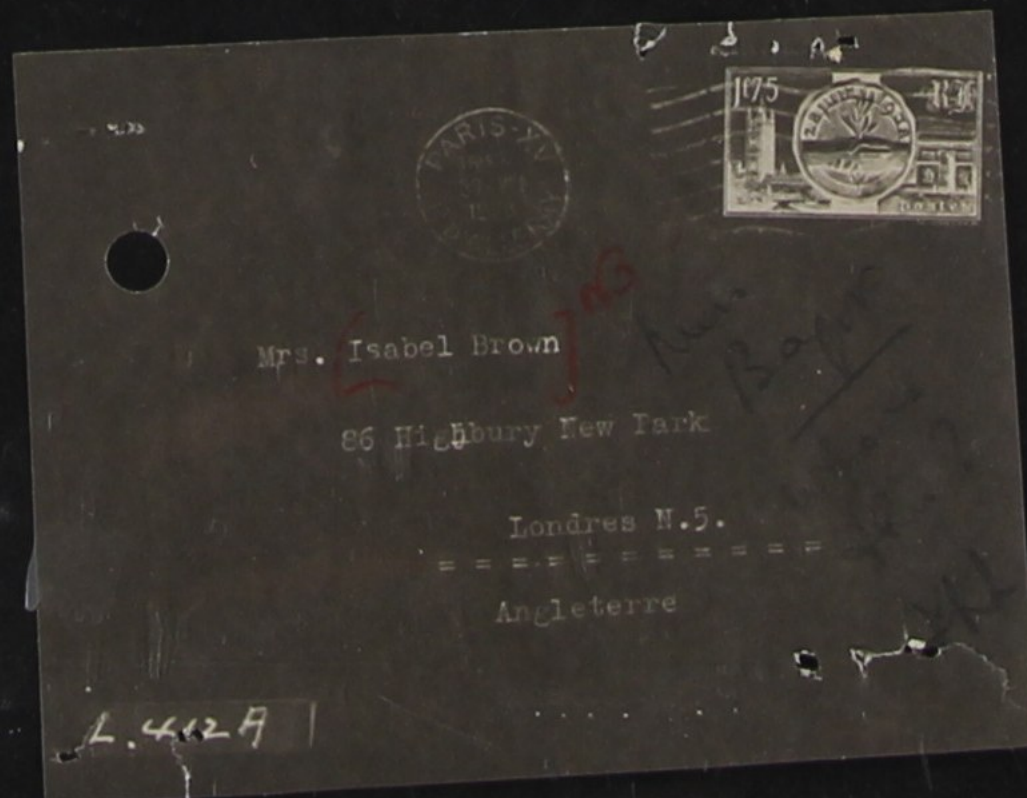
I am very pessimistic on the European situation. I don't think Sir John Simon's speech was strong enough to spoil Hitler's appetite. The information coming from Germany worries me more and more. Preparations on such a scale and in such a time can't possibly be only bluff.

Dear Isabel, please give my best regards to Ernie and Kenneth. Take very good care of yourself. You don't maybe know how terribly we need you.

Yours as ever,

*O.*  
Otto Katz

L 4127





246A  
1 Litchfield Street,  
London W.C.

March 7th 1938

Dear Otto,

I have received a note from the Dean which while not categorically stating that he will go on any given date to America, certainly indicates that he is perfectly willing.

He raises the question as to the auspices under which he will go and appears to be a little nervous as to whether it will be a little too Communist. I am writing to him today telling him that the delegation is organised by the 100 senators and that any meetings organised would be under the auspices of the North American Aid Spain Committee, which is somewhat equivalent to our own National Joint Committee. It would be very good if you now wrote to him direct giving him further assurance on this matter. His address is The Deanery, Canterbury, and his telephone number Canterbury 2683.

After a long delay we have confirmation of your proposition through Harry.

With best wishes,

Yours

Isabel

Otto Katz Esq.,  
3 Bis Impasse,  
St. Felicite,  
Paris 14.

B4a. 513

to see.

2. PA.

C346 K

Done

8/3



Otto Katz Esq.,  
3 Bis Impasse,  
St. Felicite,  
Paris 14.

C346 K



41664



245B  
P.F. 41664.CROSS - REFERENCE.SUBJECT:- Otto KATZ.

On 5.3.38 Barbara WERTHEIM, London, wrote to Otto KATZ, 3 bis Impasse Ste. Félicité, Paris XV., regarding agitation by the Duchess of Atholl about the granting of belligerent rights to Franco.

Original in P.F. 46312 (WERTHEIM) 4b. 5.3.38.  
M.J.E.B.  
11.3.38.

S. Form 81.

✓ 245B  
11/3/38



# DEPARTURE.

PI-41664

184B

28/2

245a

## Copy of Card in Traffic Index.

 Port of Disembarkation  
abroad

Paris

Name

KATZ OTT

Age

43

Sex

 Names and ages of dependents  
under 16 accompanying

Occupation

Writer

Nationality

Czechoslovak

Address in United Kingdom

Howard Hotel, London

I.O. Stamp No

Port

Croydon

Date

25/2/38

 Description of passenger  
and class travelled

Other information

PA

 AB  
✓ 1/3/38



S.B. No. 1 (Flimsy).

PF 41664

COPY

2440

AIRPORT OF CROYDON  
METROPOLITAN POLICE.

Special Report }

SPECIAL BRANCH,

Metropolitan Police,

Scotland House.

SUBJECT

25th day of February 1938

Otto KATZ

Reference to Papers.

300/WIR/32

M.I.5.

In confirmation of Croydon telephone message to Superintendent at 7-15 p.m. this day:

Otto KATZ, Czecho-Slovakian, subject of Special Branch Suspect Book, left Croydon for Paris at 7 p.m. this day. He was travelling on a return ticket, and appeared to be unaccompanied. His address in London was given as Howard Hotel, W.C.2.

Submitted.

*William Rogers*  
Inspector.

*Sorden abhorn*  
Sergeant.

*In files*  
SUPERINTENDENT

PA.



- 2 -

complexion pale; h.dk.brown (turning grey, worn fairly long and brushed back); e.blue-grey; oblique scar running from rt.upper lip to left of chin. Dress: dk.suit; black shoes; grey socks; white shirt with close stripes; black and grey tie; dk.navy silk scarf; grey trilby hat; dk.grey overcoat, belted at back; patch pockets. Large cowhide suitcase.

Submitted.

*William Rogers*  
Inspector.

*Gordon A Brown.*  
Sergeant.

*[Signature]*  
SUPERINTENDENT



S.B. No. 1 (Flimsy).

AIRPORT OF CROYDON  
METROPOLITAN POLICE.

COPY

Special Report }

SPECIAL BRANCH,

Metropolitan Police,

Scotland House,

SUBJECT

Otto KATZ

21st day of February, 1938

Reference to Papers.

100/WIR/32 MIS.

In confirmation of Croydon telephone message to Superintendent at 12-10 p.m. this day:

Otto KATZ, Czecho-Slovakian, subject of Special Branch Suspect Book, arrived at Croydon from Paris at 11-45 am today. He was travelling on Czecho-Slovakian passport No. 333/5630 - 37, issued in London, on 16.7.1937, in which the date and place of his birth are shown as 27.5.1895 at Jistebnice. He describes himself as a writer.

KATZ said that the object of his visit was to interview <sup>SF 455/35</sup> [Victor GOLLANCZ] with a view to the publishing of of a book on world politics which he (Katz) is writing; also to visit the <sup>PF 4692 5</sup> [Duchess of Atholl] and hand to her literature on Spain in order to assist her in the writing of a book dealing with the Spanish problem. In his baggage were observed typewritten notes in English relating broadly to present day political and economic conditions in various countries, although most of the notes dealt extensively with the Berlin-Rome-Tokio axis, and Japanese aims and ambitions in the Far East. These notes, Katz said, were part of the subject matter for his book. The literature intended for the Duchess of Atholl consisted of Spanish Government publications on the present conflict, as well as several cyclostyle pamphlets issued by left wing organisations in Spain. All of these publications were in Spanish.

The alien, who gave his intended address as the Howard Hotel, W.C.2, was conditionally landed for 14 days on Home Office authority.

Description:- b.1895; height 5'6"; medium build;

M.P.-37-12569/10M 148W



P.A.

2420

## METROPOLITAN POLICE-TELEGRAM.

22nd day of February 1938

om Insp. Rogers (CROYDON)

To Supt. S.B.

anded at

Received at 12.15 p.m.

Otto KATZ, Czecho-Slovakian, reference 300/WIR/32  
 M.I.5, arrived at this port at 11.45 a.m. from Paris. The  
 object of his visit is to interview <sup>SF 455/35</sup> [Victor GOLLANCZ] regarding  
 the publishing of a book he is writing on world politics, and  
 also to visit the <sup>PF 46926</sup> [Duchess of Atholl] and supply her with  
 literature material for a book on Spain which she intends writi.  
 KATZ was conditionally landed for 14 days by H.O. authority and  
 is travelling in Imperial Airways coach, index No. COY.18, due  
 Victoria Station at 12.45 p.m. He gave his intended address as  
 the Howard Hotel, W.

M.I.5

*[Signature]*  
*[Signature]*

SPECIAL BRANCH METROPOLITAN POLICE
21 FEB 1938
Signature

*[Signature]* J. Jordan. P.S. <sup>26</sup> 23/2/38

97/50 Pads Jan./1938 Jw13 (2)

*[Signature]*



ARRIVAL.Copy of Card in Traffic Index.Port of Embarkation  
abroad

Name KATZ Otto

Age 43 Sex

Names and ages of dependents  
under 16 accompanying

Occupation Writer

Nationality Czechoslovak Nationality at Birth Austrian

Proposed address in United Kingdom Howard Hotel, London

I.O. Stamp No Port Goyden Date 21/2/38

Description of passenger  
and class travelled

Other information Business Visitor

Victor Gollancz Ltd, Publisher

Book on World Politics - 1 week

Ppl-333/5630-37 - London - 16/2/37 to 16/7/38

Born Jostebnice 27/5/195. Conditionally landed

(S.O.1718) Wt.10757/804 5,000 (2) 5/37 C.T. Gp.680.  
(S.O.2686) Wt.29076/28 5,000 (2) 11/37.

for 14 days.



Secret.

2297  
In reply, state NUMBER and DATE.

CX/ /2772, dated 30.11.37.  
V.

M.I.5. (Mr. White)

Reference your PF.41664/B.4b, dated 27.11.37., re-  
garding Otto KATZ and his correspondent Louis FISCHER: <sup>PF 38488</sup>

It may just interest you to have the following extract  
from a report, dated 23.1.37., regarding, inter alia, the  
Communist Press in Czechoslovakia:



The semi-Communist publications are the "Neue  
Weltbuhne", subsidised by the Comintern and  
edited by Heinz Paul. This paper publishes  
articles by members of the German Communist  
Party and the German Jew, Louis FISCHER.

This is the only reference we have to Louis FISCHER.

for V.V.



237a

P.F.41664

C R O S S - R E F E R E N C E .

SUBJECT:- KATZ, Otto

The following paragraph is an extract from a letter from M.I.5 to the American Embassy dated 3.2.38 on the subject of the International Peace Campaign:-

"With regard to the U.S.A., the only information we have is that a certain Rudolph BREDA, @ Otto KATZ, a former German communist and author of the Brown Book about the Reichstag fire, is known to have boasted that he was sent to the U.S.A. by Willi MUNZENBERG to start the I.P.C. in that country. He is said to have been active in New York, the Middle West and in Hollywood."

N.B. For source of above information see 220b in this file.

Original in S.F.426/USA.(54a).....dated.....3.2.38

D.W.H.  
7.2.38

11/2/38



236a  
P.F.41664C R O S S - R E F E R E N C E .

SUBJECT:- KATZ, Otto

On 27.1.38 Otto KATZ wrote from Paris to Isabel BROWN in London saying he had had a telegram from Louis asking him to investigate whether Lloyd George and the Dean of Canterbury would be ready to go to America for a dinner arranged for them by about a hundred members of congress at the end of February or beginning of March. Writer stated that Louis said in his cable that it was important both should come and were it only for this dinner. Expenses of course would be covered.

Writer asked Isabel BROWN not to forget Attlee's article for "FIGHT" (special Spanish number), and said they were very anxious to get it in New York. KATZ said he should have it till the 7th February if possible.

Original in.....S.F.426/USA (52b).....dated.....27.1.38

D.W.H.  
5.2.38

11/2/38



235B,

Photostat filed in:- S.F.455/34. 29a.

From "Barbara", 11, Great Turnstile, High Holborn, W.C.1.

To *Weytheim*  
M. Otto KATZ, 3bis Impasse Ste.Felicite, Paris.

Date of letter 25.1.38.

Summary of Contents

Dear Otto,

The people here would like to know, for the mailing list for the weekly bulletin on Spain which they are getting out, the addresses of [Dorothy Parker, Arnold Zweig and Ernst Toller.] I know you know the former and thought you might perhaps know the others. If so, could you let me have them. Thanks a lot.

Yours,

Barbara.

e Minute ( )

Initials *WPS*  
(date). *3/3/38*



17 JAN 1938

S.B. No. 1 (Flimsy).

PORT OF DOVER.  
METROPOLITAN POLICE.

COPY

2352  
41664

Special Report }

SPECIAL BRANCH,

Metropolitan Police,

Scotland House,

SUBJECT

14th day of January, 1938.

Otto KATZ.

Reference to Papers.

300/WIR/32 MI5

In confirmation of telephone message sent to  
Superintendent at 12.55 pm. today:-

Otto KATZ, subject of Special Branch suspect  
book, left this port for Calais at 12.55 pm.

He was accompanied by Miss Ellen WILKINSON.

Blackburn

P.S.

Submitted.

J. O'Railey  
Inspector.

Superintendent.



8 JAN 1938

COPY

S.B. No. 1 (Flimsy).

## METROPOLITAN POLICE.

234A

Special Report }

SPECIAL BRANCH,

Metropolitan Police,

Scotland House,

SUBJECT

6th. day of January 1938.

Otto KATZ.

Reference to Papers.

O/WIR/32.

With reference to telephone message received at 9-35 p.m. this day, from P.S. Coveney, Port of Folkestone, concerning the arrival at that port from Boulogne of Otto KATZ, subject of attached file, Barbara Wertheim, an American and Ellen Wilkinson M.P.:-

Acting on instructions received from Inspector Glasscock, I met the Boulogne-Dover boat train, which arrived at Victoria at 11 p.m. KATZ, WERTHEIM and WILKINSON alighted and stood talking on the platform for about five minutes after which KATZ and WERTHEIM hailed a taxi and drove, with their luggage, to the Howard Hotel, Norfolk Street, W.C.1, which they entered at 11-20 p.m.; WILKINSON being left at Victoria.

KATZ booked room No. 547 for the night and immediately retired. He signed the hotel register in his own name and gave the address from which he had come as; 3bis. Impasse, Ste Felicite, Paris. His occupation was given as a Writer. I made enquiries of the hotel authorities and ascertained that KATZ had previously stayed at the hotel for short periods in 1933 and 1934. He was expected to arrive there at 7 p.m. yesterday but had written to the manager from Paris, postponing his arrival until to-day.

WERTHEIM booked room No.162 for two weeks. She described herself as an American, no occupation and gave her previous address as; 33, East Street, 70th. Street, New York City, U.S.A.



PORT OF FOLKESTONE.

COPY

B. No. 1 (Flimsy).

## METROPOLITAN POLICE.

234A

Special Report

SPECIAL BRANCH,

Metropolitan Police,

Scotland House,

SUBJECT

Otto

6th day of January 1938.

KATZ; Miss Ellen

WILKINSON and

Barbara WERTHEIM.  
Reference to Papers.

In confirmation of telephone message to Superintendent at 9-35 p.m. to-day :-

Among the passengers who arrived at this Port from Boulogne at 9-0 p.m. to-day was Otto KATZ, subject of Special Branch suspect book, Czechoslovakian formerly Austrian, described as a writer. His proposed address in the United Kingdom was given as, "Howard Hotel, London", and he was conditionally landed for 14 days for the purpose of visiting publishers.

He was accompanied by [Miss Ellen WILKINSON, M.P., and [Barbara WERTHEIM,] an American, aged 25, described as a journalist representing the American paper, "Nation". The latter's intended address in this country was given as, ["Guaranty Trust Co. Ltd., London"], and she was unconditionally landed for a pleasure visit of one month.

According to H.M. Immigration Officer, who examined the aliens during the boat crossing, WERTHEIM had a passport valid for travel to Spain and had informed him that she did not intend doing any journalistic work whilst in the United Kingdom.

The party left together on the boat-train for London as advised in telephone message, which included the descriptions of KATZ and WERTHEIM.

S.H.S. Journeys

Submitted.

Francis Covey  
Sergeant.

*Th. Miller*  
SUPERINTENDENT.

*L. Johnson*  
Sergeant.



# DEPARTURE.

P.F. 41664.  
234C B4B  
18/1.

## Copy of Card in Traffic Index.

Port of Disembarkation  
abroad

Calais

Name KATZ, Otto

Age 42 Sex

Names and ages of dependents  
under 16 accompanying

Occupation Writer

Nationality Czech

Address in United Kingdom Howard Hotel, London

I.O. Stamp No

Port

Dover

Date

14.1.38

Description of passenger  
and class travelled

Other information

MAZ



ARRIVAL.

PF 41664 2336

B4B

1/1.

PA

Copy of Card in Traffic Index.Port of Embarkation  
abroad

Banlogne

Name

KATZ OTT

Age

42

Sex

Names and ages of dependents  
under 16 accompanying

Occupation

Writer

Nationality

Czech

Nationality at Birth

Proposed address in United Kingdom

Howard Hotel, London

I.O. Stamp No

Port

Folkestone

Date

6/1/38

Description of passenger  
and class travelled

Business Visitor

Other information

Credentialed for 14 days

Visiting publishers

Ref-333/5630/37-

London - 16/7/37

419th  
13-1-38



SECRET

230A

PF.41664/B4b.

8th December 1937.

Dear Major Vivian,

I am afraid I did not make it clear in my letter of 27.11.37 about [Louis FISCHER's] activities in support of the Spanish Government, that it was the American journalist Louis FISCHER that I was referring to. This man was the subject of your CX. /255 of 12.2.34 and other correspondence, and was, as you remember, an associate of W.N. EVER.

Yours sincerely,

Major V. Vivian, C.B.E.,  
S.I.S.

Copy filed in P.F.38488 (FISCHER).

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3 (4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958

Mar '03



COPY/

METROPOLITAN POLICE-TELEGRAM  
-----

6th January 1938.

From PS. COVENEY - Folkestone. To Supt. S.B.

Received at 9-35 p.m.

At 9 p.m., this day Otto KATZ, Czecho-Slovakian, described as a writer, subject of Corres. 300/WIR/32, M.I. 5., arrived at this port from Boulogne. His intended address is - Howard Hotel, London, and he was landed conditionally for 14 days. He is accompanied by Ellen WILKINSON, M.P., and Barbara WERTHEIM, an American, described as a journalist, whose intended address was given as c/o, Guarantee Trust Company, London. She was landed unconditionally for a pleasure visit of one month. Description of KATZ:-

Age 42, 5ft.6ins., hair dark brown, turning grey, eyes grey, pointed nose, comp. pale, thin face, long scar on chin, slightly round-shouldered, med. build, clean shaven, Dress:- dark grey heavy overcoat, dark grey trilby hat and suit, black boots, wearing muffler.

PF 46312  
Description of [WERTHEIM:] Age 25, 5ft 6ins, slim, hair dark brown, prominent Jewish nose, sallow comp., Dress:- heavy brown fur overcoat, light brown stockings, brown triangular hat.

The above persons were in possession of 1 large and 1 small light brown coloured suitcases and 2 well-worn Gladstone bags. They left on boat train due Victoria at 10-45 p.m. in 2nd class coach No: 7965 4th from engine.

Signature:- P. ATTFIELD P.S.



SECRET.

228a

1664/B.4b

27th November, 1937.

Dear Major Vivian,

You may remember that we have suggested the possibility that Otto KATZ, at present living at 3, bis Impasse Ste. Pelicite, Paris XV, may be a Comintern agent, in charge of affairs relating to Spain.

This is to some extent supported by a letter which we have just picked-up addressed to him by Louis FISCHER.

PF 28488  
[FISCHER] must, I think, be a Spanish Government propaganda agent, as articles in the "New York Nation", "Manchester Guardian" and the London "New Statesman and Nation", written by him, invariably state the case of the Madrid Government. He is at present in this country, and according to his letter to Otto KATZ is exceedingly busy seeing influential people. He claims to have gained a definite assurance from [Attlee,] Wilkinson and [Noel Baker] that they will visit Spain on 2nd December. PF 45897  
PF 45111

Yours sincerely,

D.W.

Major V. Vivian, C.B.E.,  
S.I.S.

Agge  
29/37



SECRET

226a

664/B.4b

G.P.O. (Captain Booth)

Thank you for intercepting a letter  
going to Otto KATZ at 3, bis, Impasse Ste. Felicite,  
Paris, XV. I should be glad if you would add this  
address to his warrant.

226a

November, 1937.



SECRET.

225a

PF.41664/B.4b

17th November, 1937.

Dear Major Vivian,

You may like to have on record the  
most recent address for Otto KATZ, last referred to  
in my letter dated 15th July, 1937, No. PF.41664/DS.9,-

3, bis, Impasse Ste. Felicite,  
Paris, XV.

Yours sincerely,

DGW

Major V. Vivian, C.B.E.,  
S.I.S.

26  
18/11/37.



25 OCT 1937

PORT OF POLKSTONE.  
METROPOLITAN POLICE.

223 COPY

S.B. No. 1 (Flimsy).

Special Report }

SPECIAL BRANCH,

Metropolitan Police,

Scotland House,

SUBJECT

22nd day of 1937  
October 7.

Reference to Papers.

In confirmation of Telephone Message to  
Superintendent at 6-45 p.m. to-day:-

JOHN HATZ, aged 42, Czecho-Slovakian,  
employed as a Writer, subject of Superintendent's  
Memorandum of 7th September, 1937, embarked at this port  
for Boulogne at 6-40 p.m. to-day.

His last address in the U.K. was given as,  
"Howard Hotel, Norfolk Street, London".

His immediate destination was thought to be

He appeared to be travelling alone.

*Francis Coover*  
Sergeant.

*[Signature]*  
SUPERINTENDENT.



SECRET.

Copy of SF 416/10

December 1937.  
 To THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL, and all others whom it may concern,

I hereby authorize and require you to detain, open and produce for my inspection all postal packets and telegrams addressed to :—

Otto KATZ,

3 bis, Impasse Sainte-Polite, Paris.  
 and c/o Editions Carrefour, 33 Boulevard Montmartre, Paris.

PF 44122

Robert Gaston Gustave PETIT alias "Monsieur Bob",  
 288 Grande Rue, Maisons Alfort, Seine.  
 and Imprimerie Française, 125 rue Montmartre, Paris.  
 and Bureau des Editions de Publicité, 25 rue d'Alsace, Paris.

or to any name at that or any other address if there is reasonable ground to believe that they are intended for the said

O. KATZ and R. G. O. PETIT

and for so doing this shall be your sufficient Warrant.

One of His Majesty's  
 Principal Secretaries of State.

These are important Communist organisers. Their correspondence from this country is of interest, and it is desired to retain the warrant.

S. Form 56